MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 MAY 1982

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- Thirty thousand Iraqi troops stationed in Khorramshahr have completely surrendered, putting up very little resistance, IRNA reported on 24 May. The report said the city is now on the verge of complete liberation, with those Iraqis who have not surrendered fleeing in all directions. An earlier military communique carried by Tehran radio reported that Iranian forces had completely surrounded Khorramshahr. It also noted that the Iraqi commander of the city had been killed. Announcing that Iranian forces had taken up positions on the eastern side of the Shatt al-'Arab, the communique claimed that all strategic roads entering the city, including the Khorramahshar-Shalamcheh and Khorramahshar-Ahvaz highways, are under Iranian control. The communique called on Iraqi soldiers in Khorramshahr to surrender or face annihilation.

Over the weekend, Tehran radio carried a military communique announcing that Iranian forces had launched an offensive on the evening of 22 May in order to liberate the Kushk region and the areas west and northwest of Khorramshahr. The radio later reported that Iranian forces had captured the Pol-e Now bridge and thus were able to reach the Shatt al-'Arab.

During the offensive the Iranians "totally destroyed" Iraqi forces in the Kushk region and captured the border garrison of Kushk, according to a Guards Corps and armed forces communique carried by Tehran radio. Thirty-five tanks and personnel carriers were destroyed and "very heavy casualties" were inflicted on three Iraqi border guards brigades and a special forces brigade, the communique said. It also claimed three Iraqi planes were shot down in the Abadan and Khorramshahr sector on 23 May. Tehran radio later reported that 2,650 Iraqis had been captured during the offensive.

Iranian forces, together with Iraqi mujahidin, occupied the Iraqi town of Halabcheh, according to another Tehran radio report. The radio claimed that an army information and security organization building was damaged and a number of Iraqis were killed during the operation.

According to an Iraqi Armed Forces communique carried by Baghdad radio, on the evening of 22 May Iranian forces attempted to enter Khorramshahr from the north but suffered heavy losses when they were intercepted by Iraqi troops. Following this effort, the Iranians attempted to storm Khorramshahr using two military columns. The communique said Iraqi forces confronted the Iranian columns and inflicted "grave losses."

Iraqi Denial — An authoritative Iraqi spokesman dismissed reports that there are regular Arab forces in Iraq, INA reported. However, he reaffirmed that volunteers from Jordan and the YAR are in Iraq with the consent of their governments. Iraq considers any Arab country's readiness to participate in the battle against Iranian aggression as being consistent with the joint Arab defense pact, the spokesman added.

Iraq

Whenever Egyptian President Husni Mubarak takes one step toward the Arabs Iraq will take two steps toward him, President Saddam Husayn declared in an interview with the Kuwaiti paper AS-SIYASAH cited by INA. Calling Egypt's stand on the Iran-Iraq war an "indisputably good" one, Husayn added that Egypt has promptly responded to all of Iraq's requests. He said the current Arab stand on the war augurs well and noted that this is evident by the volunteers from all Arab countries who are stationed on Iraq's border, "despite the fact that some of their heads of state are either overtly or covertly working against Iraq." Husayn declared that if the Egyptian Army comes to Baghdad, Iraq will open its doors for it.

Iran

Approximately 50 members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq were either captured or killed during a series of coordinated operations undertaken by the Tehran prosecutor's office and the Islamic revolution committees, according to a statement by the prosecutor's office carried by Tehran radio.

Lebanon

Bomb Explosions -- At least 12 people were killed when a car bomb exploded outside the French Embassy in western Beirut early on 24 May, AFP reported. The dead include a French paratrooper and a number of people who had been lining up for visas. An anonymous telephone caller told AFP that the "Holy War" organization is responsible for all explosions that have taken place and will take place to avenge the murder of its people in Tripoli and southern Beirut.

Earlier, Beirut radio reported that 10 people had been killed and 25 injured by 3 bomb explosions in western Beirut on 21 May. Cairo radio said the Front for the Liberation of Lebanon From Foreigners claimed responsibility for the explosions that struck targets associated with late Egyptian President Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir.

Draper Mission, Situation in South -- U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Morris Draper met with Lebanese officials in Beirut on 21 May, Beirut radio noted. In remarks broadcast by the radio after his meeting with Draper, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said the discussions had covered the general situation in the area, particularly various interpretations of the cease-fire. Al-Wazzan also revealed that UNIFIL had informed the Lebanese Government of a reduction in Israeli forces along the Lebanese border. However, the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported extensive Israeli military maneuvers in the eastern sector of southern Lebanon 19-20 May and subsequently claimed that the IDF had strengthened positions in Bint Jubayl with tanks, artillery and radar.

Draper subsequently met with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus and then arrived in Jordan, where he held talks on the Lebanese situation with King Husayn, according to reports by Damascus radio and Amman television.

Political/Security Affairs -- At a meeting in Damascus, the Higher Coordination Committee decided to implement new security measures soon in Beirut, Sidon, Tripoli and elsewhere, Beirut radio reported. The committee, which comprises Lebanese, Palestinian and Syrian representatives, agreed to close all armed offices in the national areas, to prevent the carrying of arms outside Palestinian camps except in urgent cases requiring the confrontation of Israeli attacks and to hand over security tasks to Syrian Arab Deterrent Forces and internal security forces. Meanwhile, in an interview with MONDAY MORNING, Amal movement leader Nabih Birri revealed that during recent factional clashes in Lebanon, the Syrians warned Amal, the Nationalist Movement and the PLO that if the fighting were to continue, Syria would withdraw Arab Deterrent Forces from Beirut and other conflict areas. Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas visited Arab Deterrent Forces units near Tripoli on 23 May and subsequently met with former President Sulayman Franjiyah in Zgharta, according to reports by Damascus and Beirut radios.

Meanwhile, the Nationalist Movement announced its decision to unite all its parties and factions into a single front, Voice of Palestine radio reported.

Israel

If the United States decides to provide "Jordan-Iraq" the enemies of Israel, with sophisticated weapons it will endanger Israeli security, Prime Minister Menahem Begin said in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio on 24 May. During the 23 May Cabinet meeting, Begin described as misleading U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger's announcement that the United States must supply advanced weapons to Jordan because the Jordanians are pressured between Syria and Iran, the radio said. Begin asserted that the real cause for the Jordanian request for U.S. weapons is neither Syria nor Iran, but Israel. Dismissing the "lip service" the United States pays to upholding Israeli military superiority, Begin said the supply of modern Soviet weapons and of the speediest and most sophisticated U.S. weapons to Jordan poses a direct and immediate danger to Israel. Israel is launching an information campaign against the sale of sophisticated U.S. arms to Jordan, according to a related radio report.

Jordan

Consultative Council President Sulayman 'Arar will visit the Soviet Union on 24 May, AFP reported citing informed sources in Amman. Meanwhile, the Paris magazine AL-MUSTAQBAL said King Husayn's forthcoming visit to the USSR has been postponed because of the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war.

Egypt

Agreement with Jordan -- Egypt will increase the number of its diplomats in the Egyptian interests mission in Amman, and Jordan will likewise increase its staff at the Jordanian mission in Cairo, MENA reported citing the weekly paper MAY. MAY also noted that some other Arab states are contacting the Egyptian Foreign Ministry regarding an increase in their diplomatic staffs in Egypt.

Al-Baz Interview -- Egypt is working to reactivate the autonomy talks, although no agreement has been reached on a date for resuming the talks or on their venue, Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz stated in an interview with Egyptian journalists following a meeting between President Husni Mubarak and his advisers, MENA reported. Asked about the steps taken to give impetus to the talks, Al-Baz said the subject was discussed at the meeting in light of recent contacts and the conclusion of the mission of U.S. Middle East envoy Richard Fairbanks. Al-Baz noted that the Iran-Iraq war and possible trends in the coming weeks were also discussed at the meeting. He said Egypt is studying all political and military aspects of the war and is watching developments closely in view of Egypt's concern for the strategic security of the Arab nation.

Mubarak Remarks -- There is a big gap between Egypt and Israel on the autonomy talks, but Egypt must continue to pursue them to the end of the course, President Mubarak said during a meeting with Egyptian journalists on 23 May, MENA reported. Regarding speculation about the convening of an Arab summit to which Egypt would be invited, Mubarak said Egypt will not participate in any Arab summit conference unless there is a common background and sound diplomatic relations between Egypt and the Arabs. Commenting on domestic issues, Mubarak declared that the National Democratic Party would "witness certain changes in the next few days."

Bahrain

The High Court of Appeals in Bahrain sentenced 73 defendants accused of involvement in a sabotage network that was uncovered in Bahrain in 1981, WAKH reported. Three of the accused received life sentences while the remaining 70 defendants received sentences of 15 years or less. The defendants belonged to a Tehran-based organization called the "Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain," the Saudi paper AL-YAWM reported. The paper noted previous reports that the accused had been trained in sabotage camps in Iran. The Iranian news agency IRNA reported the sentencing of the defendants without comment.

Libya

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, in a statement carried by Voice of Arab Homeland radio, called on Muslims everywhere to liberate the holy mosque in Mecca and the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. He also called for placing Mecca and Al-Madinah under an Islamic administration comprised of all Islamic nations. Al-Qadhdhafi asserted that it is not permissible for the holy mosque to remain under the political control of one country. He urged action be undertaken immediately to end Saudi political domination of the mosque, even if this must be accomplished through a jihad.

Steadfastness and Confrontation Front

The foreign ministers of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front will meet in Algiers on 24 May, Algiers radio reported.

Arab Relations With Zaire

Libya has decided to close its people's bureau in Zaire because of the decision by the Zairian regime to reestablish relations with Israel, Voice of Arab Homeland radio reported. According to WAKH report, the UAE has also decided to sever its relations with Zaire. Iran announced that it had recalled its charge d'affaires in Zaire to protest Zaire's "hostile act" of restoring relations with Israel, Tehran radio reported citing a Foreign Ministry spokesman.

FBIS DAILY REPORT
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'SOURCE' REAFFIRMS PLO VERSION OF CEASE-FIRE

JN221824 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1750 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] A responsible source in the Palestinian revolution has stated the following: News agencies and newspapers have disseminated reports distributed by the U.S. State Department last Wednesday on what it called a secret agreement on the cease-fire in southern Lebanon and that this agreement covers the cessation of operations from the Lebanese, Jordanian and Syrian borders. The PLO would like to reaffirm the following facts:

1. The cease-fire issue is a well-known matter, free of secret provisions. Also, there have been no secret agreements in this regard. It was concluded via the United Nations through the UN secretary general, Undersecretary General Urguhart and General Callaghan. This was supported by some Arab contacts. The agreement was clear and was directly and specifically announced, containing no ambiguity or secret provision regarding the definition of the cease-fire.

2. The aforementioned cease-fire agreement revolved around Zionist aggressive activities in the Lebanese arena and across Lebanese borders. There were absolutely no discussions about any other borders. Furthermore, the Palestinian side expressed its position by reaffirming its legitimate right to continue its struggle inside the occupied territories and the right of the Palestinian revolution and our people to confront the Zionist occupation inside the occupied territories. This is in addition to reaffirming its right to move across the other borders. This position was directly declared by the PLO on many occasions.

KUNA: PLO'S UN ENVOY VISITS U.S. SENATOR PERCY

LD221050 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0742 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Washington, 22 May (KUNA) -- Informed sources here have disclosed that the U.S. Government granted PLO Representative to the United Nations Zuhayr at-Tarazi a special permit to visit Washington for 1 day last Thursday.

These sources told KUNA last night that At-Tarazi visited Congress and held talks there with Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Senator Charles Percy that focused on a visit that Beirut papers said PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi would be paying to the U.S. capital.

Qaddumi was scheduled to visit Washington last month at the invitation of Congressmen Charles Percy and Lee Hamilton to discuss possible PLO participation in the Middle East process and to start a dialogue between the United States and the biggest of the Palestinian organizations. Qaddumi canceled this visit.

Last week the offices of Percy and Hamilton denied Beirut press reports to the effect that they had invited Qaddumi to address Congress. According to the sources the results of At-Tarazi's talks with Percy were kept secret.

VOP ON DRAPER'S TASK, CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT

NC211148 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1015 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Middle Eastern Affairs Morris Draper continued his talks this morning with Lebanese officials. He met with Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis and Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan.

During his meeting with the Lebanese foreign minister yesterday, Draper reviewed developments in Lebanon.

Quoting informed diplomatic sources, Lebanese newspapers have said that the task of the U.S. envoy centers on southern Lebanon and the coming Lebanese presidential elections.

We point out that the task of the U.S. envoy coincides with Zionist concentrations and threats to launch an aggression against Lebanon in addition to the Zionist plan to gradually take all the water of the Al-Litani River.

The radio's political editor has pointed out that the Palestinian revolution rejects the idea of the United States being a mediator, even if formally, especially in the issue of interpreting the cease-fire agreement. The editor says the Zionist interpretation of the cease-fire is completely rejected by the PLO because ceasing fire in the south does not mean halting the armed conflict between the Palestinian people and the Zionist enemy nor does it restrict the freedom of the Palestinian movement in all arenas and on all levels.

Our political editor adds that if the Zionists and the Americans want the cease-fire in the south to be a prelude to halting the armed conflict, we tell them very confidently that we do not need it. It is they who have asked for it and it is they who have come to the area to consolidate it.

The political editor then points out how illogical the American stand is in calling for self-restraint at a time when it does not recognize us and deals with the Palestinian issue in a false manner. The editor says the U.S. stand could only lead to more turmoil and to moving away from genuine peace.

VOP ON JOINT COMMAND MEETING, 20 MAY STATEMENTS

NC210939 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 21 May 82

[Excerpt] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] yesterday at noon presided over a meeting of the joint command in southern Lebanon. Brothers Muhsin Ibrahim, secretary of the political council of the Nationalist Movement in the south, Mustafa Said, commander of the joint forces in the south, and Al-Haf Isma'il, attended.

The conferees discussed the [Israeli] military concentrations and the threats uttered by enemy leaders against Palestinian camps and Lebanese villages in the south. The discussion also touched on the incidents that occurred recently in Sidon and on eliminating their causes.

The conferees then went to the office of Brother Mustafa Sa'd. Brother Muhsin Ibrahim made a statement in which he said: This meeting of the joint command in the south under Brother Abu 'Ammar's chairmanship has been a significant opportunity for reviewing the overall conditions of the city of Sidon, the capital of the steadfast south, following the recent regrettable incident.

He affirmed that the meeting succeeded in making a joint political diagnosis of the reasons for the security lapse. He said: We have worked out a set of basic guidelines to tackle the political, security, military and popular state of affairs in the city and throughout the south.

Brother Muhsin Ibrahim added that the joint command has decided to regard its sessions as open until the security measures already devised are working properly and until a radical, overall solution is achieved via these measures.

He said: On behalf of Brother Abu 'Ammar and myself, I can put on record our optimism about the ability of this command to face up to the two interlinking tasks -- the task of facing the Zionist enemy and that of devoting attention to the national masses and of preserving their security.

Furthermore, Brother Mustafa Sa'd made a statement in which he noted the meeting was very candid and that it dealt with all the basic aspects of interests to the joint command in the south.

He added: We are fully confident we can face up to the responsibility of implementing the trends which preserve Palestinian-Lebanese-Syrian coherence. We are also confident the joint command will put forward proposals for discussion by the PLO Executive Committee and by the Central Political Council of the Nationalist Movement, and that a decision will be taken on these proposals with maximum speed.

Brother Mustafa sa'd Said: At this point, we want to emphasize the major role played by Brother Abu 'Ammar, the PLO Executive Committee and Brother Muhsin Ibrahim in following the trial.

ARAB LEAGUE'S KLIBI ON ZAIRE-ISRAEL RELATIONS

NC220706 Paris AFP in English 0652 GMT 22 May 82

[Excerpt] Tunis, 22 May (AFP) -- Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi disputed the reasons given by Zaire for its resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel in a statement released at league headquarters here on Friday.

He said that when President Mobuto Sese Seko insisted on Zaire's right as a free and sovereign country to fix its own external policy, "he forgets that it was he who in 1973, in Zaire's name, decided on the rupture with Israel."

The break then was not a question only of linking the severance of ties to the recovery of Egypt's occupied territories alone, but of maintaining the diplomatic rupture until other Arab countries concerned got their territories back, Mr Klibi said.

General Mobutu's assertion that Arab-African co-operation was a form of "neo-Arab slavery" was an insult to the wisdom of other African heads of state and to Arab-African brotherhood, Mr Klibi said.

He noted that Zaire had in the past decade got 440 million dollars of aid from Arab financing, making it the number two recipient.

Mr Klibi repeated his arguments in a message to Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Secretary General Edem Kodjo. He said the OAU should speak out against Zaire's decision.

PLO OFFICIALS MEET BRITISH, PDRY DIPLOMATS

JN221552 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Abu Ja'far, director of the PLO Political Department, yesterday met the British ambassador in Beirut, David Roberts, who was accompanied by the embassy's adviser. Abu Yahya, director of European affairs in the Political Department, attended the 1-hour meeting which dealt with the latest developments in the area as well as relations between the PLO and Britain.

Abu Ja'far afterwards met the charge d'affaires of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in Beirut. They spoke about the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front meeting due to begin on Sunday in Algiers as well as the current developments in the region.

64th OPEC MINISTERIAL SESSION HELD IN QUITO

Production Ceiling Discussed

AB211109 Lagos NAN in English 1055 GMT 21 May 82

[By Damian Obika]

[Text] Quito, 21 May (NAN) — The removal of the ceiling on oil production imposed on OPEC member states should depend on the condition of the market and the decision of the current ministers conference, Dr Marc Nguema, the secretary general of the organization, said yesterday in Quito, Ecuador.

THE NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) correspondent in Quito reports that Dr Nugema told newsmen that the decision would be based on the report of a ministerial committee set up in March by OPEC. The committee was established in March in Vienna to monitor the market and to examine the effects of the conference decision's concerning the production ceiling. "As we see it now, the market is improving, but still remains weak," Dr Nguema said. He denied that there was a disagreement among member states over the ceiling.

Competent sources told NAN that the ministerial committee, in its report, recommended that the production ceiling of OPEC production of 17.5 million barrels per day should be kept until the next meeting of the conference or a consultative meeting.

According to the sources, it was also recommended that the ministerial committee should continue monitoring the market until early July when it is scheduled to meet.

"Since the OPEC decision was mainly centered on reconfirming and strengthening the price structure, it becomes imperative that all member states should strictly adhere to their allocated production levels and the level of official prices are agreed by OPEC," one of the sources quoted the committee as recommending.

The Venezuelan energy minister, Dr Humberto Calderon Berti, said in an interview that his country favored retaining the ceiling. "We are in favor of the ceiling and will keep it as long as is necessary," Dr Calderon Berti said. "We have to keep control when it is needed."

The Saudi Arabian minister of petroleum and mineral resources, Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, said that oil prices were down and that he did not see why consumers should stockpile oil when the interest rates were high.

North-South Differences

PA212009 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] The 64th meeting of the OPEC ministers was inaugurated yesterday. The 13 OPEC member countries have sent large delegations headed by their petroleum ministers.

In opening the conference, Ecuadorean President Oswaldo Hurtado Larrea recounted the abysmal differences that separate rich countries from poor. He pointed to the fact that the rich nations, which only have 1/4 of the world's population, obtain 4/5 of the world's revenues. The transnationals, Hurtado Larrea stressed are monopolizing the use and distribution of financial resources including those coming from the Third World or those gathered by international development organizations.

In contrast, the nations of the South receive only 1/5 of the world's revenues despite the fact that they have 3/4 of the world's population. Hunger, malnutrition and infant mortality are calamities which affect the poorest social sectors of the countries of the South.

The president emphasized that there can be no doubt that the marvellous economic growth of the present century was subsidized by the irrational exploitation of petroleum-producing countries. Thanks to OPEC, he noted, this situation has changed radically. Now the phases of production and refining are in the hands of the oil-producing countries. This has resulted in the transformation of the market: Instead of being controlled by consumers, as was traditionally the case, the market is now controlled by the producers, Hurtado Larrea said. The Ecuadorean president added:

[Begin recording] This contributes in raising Third World countries' awareness of the need to fight for new prices for exports. In this way OPEC attained something which was not accomplished by the North-South dialogue or the institutions and organizations which have been created throughout the years to achieve a new international economic order. [end recording]

President Hurtado stressed the importance of the Quito meeting and issued a call:

[Begin recording] It is absolutely necessary to design a long-term program and consolidate the proposals and actions presented during the Vienna meeting. These proposals and actions are aimed at stopping the anti-OPEC strategy launched by the transnationals and the industrialized countries. Within this framework, we must find ideal solutions to the problems and difficult pressures being experienced by certain countries like Ecuador which force them to lower the price of their crude. [end recording]

President Hurtado Larrea concluded his speech at the OPEC meeting by noting that there is a disturbing factor threatening the future: The volume of oil produced and exported by the OPEC member countries continues to decline.

Effect of Falklands Crisis

PA212219 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Venezuelan Mines and Energy Minister Humberto Calderon Berti, who is heading his country's delegation to the OPEC meeting in Quito, has reiterated Venezuela's practical cooperation with Ecuador now that our country is experiencing heavy pressure to decrease oil prices.

Regarding the Malvinas conflict and its effect on the oil market, Calderon Berti said:

[Begin recording] [Calderon Berti] We do not feel that there is any effect at this time except for the problem of certain producers like Ecuador who sell oil to Brazil and Uruguay and have to transport it near the area of the conflict. Therefore, Ecuador is being affected because it now has to send the oil through the Panama Canal and this evidently is resulting in additional costs for its oil exports.

[Question] Can you tell us about the meeting you held with some of your colleagues before you came here?

[Answer] We held a meeting to analyze the international oil market following instructions set by the last OPEC conference. The members of the [Marketing Continuity] Committee reviewed our marketing networks and this would not be a [word indistinct] cost, differing from the refining cost.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Petroven and the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation are holding talks and we are willing... [interrupts thought] I reiterated to Minister Eduardo Ortega Gomez that we are talking about moderate volumes to start with.

Ecuador is having some problems with the supply of certain products in its local market. Therefore, we are willing to process the Ecuadorean crude in Venezuela at cost prices and return it to Ecuador.

You might be asking yourself: What interest does Venezuela have in processing Ecuadorean crude at cost prices? Well, in the first place it would be specific proof of our solidarity with this country and, secondly, we are aware of the fact that any pressure exerted on Ecuador affects us, if Ecuador is forced to drop prices. Such an action would affect our price structure. For this reason, we feel that we must do everything possible to prevent a drop in oil prices and the Venezuelan Government is willing to do this. [end recording]

Price, Production Maintained

PA212024 Paris AFP in Spanish 1955 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Quito, 21 May (AFP) -- OPEC Secretary General Marc Nan Nguema said that at today's meeting of OPEC ministers it was decided to maintain the production ceiling at 17.5 million barrels per day and the reference price at $34.

Communique Issued

PA220428 Vienna OPECNA in Spanish 0327 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Quito, 21 May (OPECNA) -- Text of official communique of the OPEC conference: The 64th meeting of the OPEC was held in Quito from 20 to 21 May 1982. His Excellency Oswaldo Hurtado Larrea, constitutional president of Ecuador, inaugurated the conference, which was opened by outgoing President Mani' ibn Sa'id al-Utaybah, petroleum and mineral resources minister of the United Arab Emirates.

The conference expressed its thanks to him for his efforts which benefited the organization during his term of office.

The conference unanimously elected Eduardo Ortega Gomez, natural resources and energy minister of Ecuador and chief of its delegation, as its president. Mallam Yahaya Dikko, presidential adviser in petroleum and energy affairs of Nigeria and chief of its delegation, was unanimously elected alternate president.

The conference analyzed the report of the ministerial committee chaired by Mani' ibn Sa'id al-Utaybah, petroleum and mineral resources minister of the United Arab Emirates, which was established by the 63d special meeting of the conference to watch over the market situation and decided to maintain the existing ceiling for the total production of the OPEC. The conference expressed its satisfaction for the work carried out by this ministerial committee and decided that it should continue its work and again report to the conference.

Upon analyzing the situation of the market, the conference also considered the report of the 56th meeting of the Economic Commission.

The conference expressed its sincere gratitude to the president of the republic, the government and people of Ecuador for the hospitality extended to the participants in the conference and for the excellent organization of the meeting.

The conference approved resolutions that will be published on 21 June 1982 after their ratification by the member countries. The next regular meeting of the conference will be held in Lagos, Nigeria, on 9 December 1982.

Press Conference

LD220936 Vienna OPECNA in English 0750 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Quito, 21 May 82 (OPECNA) -- Eduardo Ortega Gomez, president of the 64th OPEC conference, said Friday that the OPEC ministerial market monitoring committee will meet again soon and that an extraordinary OPEC meeting was also possible.

He said there had been no reports on non-compliance by any member country with the production quotas set by OPEC last March.

He was addressing a press conference at the conclusion of the two-day OPEC conference meeting.

Also present were Humberto Calderon Berti, Venezuelan minister of mines and energy, and the OPEC secretary general, Marc Nan Nguema.

Ortega said that the present production ceiling will be maintained as long as necessary.

On Mexico's joining the OPEC, he said "OPEC is not a closed organization". He said there were certain criteria for admission, which the country concerned should fulfil.

Humberto Calderon Berti, Venezuelan minister of mines and energy. told the news conference that the OPEC production ceiling would be kept as long as necessary to maintain equilibrium between supply and demand.

On OPEC long-term strategy, he said conditions in the market today were different from what they were before, with coal becoming more important.

Calderon said that OPEC experts would report to the ministerial market monitoring committee before the next conference in Lagos. He said demand for OPEC crude would pick up by the middle of the year, "but we have to wait and see how the market behaves".

On relations with Mexico, the minister [said] both Venezuela and Mexico were working closely together in the energy sector through channels such as OLADE [Latin American Energy Organization].

He disclosed that Venezuela, Mexico and Brazil would establish a joint petroleum company.

Marc Nan Nguema OPEC secretary general, told the press conference that OPEC will not approach North Sea oil producers for discussions on the oil price. He said there was no need to do so since North Sea crudes were selling for about four U.S. dollars above their officially set prices on the spot market.

He added that OPEC had decided to maintain the current price of 34 dollars per barrel for the market crude with a differential of 1.50 dollars for lighter crudes. Nan Nguema cited current OPEC production as ranging between 16.5 and 16.8 million b/d.

He commended Nigeria's resolve to withstand pressure from oil companies, adding "Nigeria has defended OPEC's price structure as well as its own national interest". Failure to do so would have cost the country 500 million dollars annually, while OPEC would have lost up to 40 billion.

The secretary general said there were clear indications that Nigeria would be able to reach its production ceiling.

He said the conference discussed the OPEC institute for higher education which was initiated by Venezuela and Ecuador and supported by all member countries. It also discussed OPEC information policy with special reference to the OPEC NEWS AGENCY.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC TO ANNOUNCE 'IMPORTANT DECISIONS' 30 MAY

LD220842 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0715 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 22 May (SPA) — GCC Assistant Secretary General Ibrahim as-Subhi has disclosed that important decisions will be announced at a meeting of the GCC foreign ministers on 30 May, which will be a continuation of their recent meeting in Kuwait. He added that the GCC's attitude toward the Iraq-Iran war will be made public at this meeting.

Contacts are continuing, he said, to clear the Arab air prior to the resumption of the adjourned Arab Fes summit. He added that these contacts have gone some way toward removing inter-Arab differences because the cause concerns all Arabs.

In a statement to 'UKAZ,' published here today on the GCC's first anniversary, As-Subhi said: The council's accomplishments to date have been tangible and clear, and I believe we have gone a long way in the political sphere.

On the Iraq-Iran war and GCC member countries' attitude towards it, As-Subhi warned about the gravity of the state through which the Gulf is passing at present and about the inherent dangers in any explosion of the war in a manner which would threaten the entire Gulf. Iran will be the one exposed to the greatest danger should the war escalate, as there are some who are awaiting an opportunity to interfere. Then, he added, the danger will threaten the whole world, both East and West, in view of the sensitivity of the region that has direct links with the world economy. He called on Iran to realize its responsibility regarding such a danger and to appreciate Iraq's readiness to end the war and enter into peaceful negotiations in order to contain the war and to leave no pretexts for foreign intervention.

He described the economic integration agreement concluded among the GCC member countries as the biggest achievement made to date and said it will begin to bear fruit by the end of the current year. He added that it is intended to link together the machinery in all GCC member countries so that true Gulf cohesion may be attained. He called on GCC member countries to rationalize consumption in the present stage as an economic necessity and to address themselves to the development of the resources of oil, minerals, agriculture, industry and investment.

He attributed Zaire's recent decision to the Arab failure to fill the political and economic vacuum created by Israel's expulsion from Africa a few years ago. He affirmed that the opportunity to fill this vacuum and to shut the door once and for all in the face of Israel has not yet been lost.

PDRY, OMAN TO DISCUSS RESTORING RELATIONS

JN190928 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0850 GMT 19 May 82

[Text] Kuwait, 19 May (INA) -- The newspaper AL-WATAN reports today that the first direct official contact between the PDRY and Oman will take place in Kuwait on 29 May. The paper adds that the contact will take place during a meeting of experts of the two countries with Kuwaiti and UAE officials attending. The meeting will discuss the question of restoring relations between Aden and Muscat which have been at a low level for the past 15 years.

BAHRAIN

HIGH COURT SENTENCES SABOTEURS 22 MAY

GF221131 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1113 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Manama, 22 May (WAKH) -- The High Court of Appeal in Bahrain today passed sentences on 73 of those accused of being involved in the sabotage network uncovered in Baharain in December 1981.

The court sentenced 3 of the accused to life imprisonment, 60 to 15 years imprisonment, and 10 to 7 years imprisonment. The court also ordered the confiscation of the explosives, weapons and ammunition that have been seized.

The sentences were passed during an open session that lasted 2 hours and was attended by members of the local press, relatives of the defendants, counsels for the defense and members of the public.

The court's sentences cannot be contested under any circumstances.

GULF DAILY NEWS Report

GF231020 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 23 May 82 p 1

[Text] Bahrain's high court yesterday jailed three people for life and sentenced 70 others to shorter terms for their part in last December's attempted coup.

The three who were jailed for life were Ja'far Kazim Ja'far al-'Alawi, 'Ali Muhammad Taqi as-Sayf and 'Abd al-Husayn Muhammad Hasan Ja'far. The men's nationalities were not revealed.

The shorter terms consisted of 15 years each for 60 of the group and seven years each for the remaining 10.

Relatives of the defendants and local journalists were allowed to attend yesterday's proceedings of the trial, which began on March 13. The public prosecutor sought the death penalty for all the defendants, who were charged with crimes against state security in co-operation with a foreign power.

The government foiled the coup attempt a few days before it was due to be carried out on December 16, Bahrain's national day. Defendants included 60 Bahrainis, 11 Saudis and one each from Kuwait and Oman.

KUWAIT

STATE SEVERS RELATIONS WITH ZAIRE, COSTA RICA

LD240908 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0850 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] Kuwait, 24 May (KUNA) -- Kuwait announced today that it has decided to sever its diplomatic relations with Zaire and Costa Rica because of Zaire's decision to resume relations with Israel and the transfer of Costa Rica's embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

QATAR

YAR PRIME MINISTER AL-IRYANI ARRIVES 23 MAY

GF230945 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0850 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Doha, 23 May (WAKH) -- YAR Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani arrived on a visit to the State of Qatar at the start of his tour of the region. He was received on arrival by Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister.

During his visit, Dr al-Iryani will hold talks with Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani on bilateral relations and current Arab issues. Dr al-Iryani is accompanied by a high-ranking delegation including the ministers of foreign affairs, information, education and electricity.

Meets Amir, Attends Talks

GF231300 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1220 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Doha, 23 May (WAKH) -- The amir of Qatar, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, today received YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, who is currently visiting Doha.

Shaykh Hamid ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and minister of defense; Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs; 'Ali ibn Ahmad al-Ansari, minister of labor and social affairs; 'Isa Ghanim al-Kawwari, minister of information; and 'Abd ar-Rahman al-'Atiyah, nonresident Qatari ambassador to the YAR, attended the meeting on the Qatari side. 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr, foreign minister; Muhammad Ahmad al-Junayd, minister of electricity, water and sewage; Ahmad 'Abd al-Malik al-Asbahi, minister of education; Hasan al-Lawzi, minister of education and culture; and Yahya 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Iryani, YAR ambassador in Doha, attended on the YAR side.

The two sides reviewed bilateral relations and ways of strengthening and developing them in various spheres. They also reviewed the situation in the region, the current Arab and international situation, and issues of mutual interest.

SAUDI ARABIA

JIDDA NEWSPAPERS CALL FOR ISOLATING ZAIRE

LD221412 Riyadh SPA in English 1306 GMT 22 May 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Riyadh, 22 May (SPA) -- The Jidda-based 'UKAZ newspaper today strongly denounced Zaire's decision to restore diplomatic relations with Israel and called for urgent measures to strengthen Afro-Arab solidarity.

The paper dplored what it called irresponsible attacks made by Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko on Arab states and urged Arabs to initiate emergency moves to further strengthen cooperation and solidarity with fellow African countries. It urged the Arab states to confront Israeli infiltration of the African Continent. 'UKAZ stressed the need for a collective Arab and Islamic action to face the Zairian provocative action and impress upon other African states not to follow the same course.

Another newspaper, AL-BILAD, published in Jidda, called for a joint Afro-Arab action to confront "Zionist plots in Africa and isolate Zaire for its unreasonable and unjustified move. Moreover, such an action should be firm and decisive to deter other African states from following Zaire's irresponsible step," the paper said. "The Zairian move has unmasked Israel's dangerous attempts to penetrate the African Continent and undermine Afro-Arab solidarity," it added.

SPA ON SUDANESE ACCUSATION OF AL-QADHDHAFI

LD191320 Riyadh SPA in English 1227 GMT 19 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 19 May (SPA) -- Sudan's minister at the presidency, Dr Baha' ad-din Idris, in an interview published today, accused Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi of plotting against African states.

The visiting minister told AL-BILAD newspaper of Jidda, that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi was in fact "serving communist interests" in the region and his behaviour was "irresponsible." He said "the best example of Al-Qadhdhafi conspiracies against the African states is the plots he has been carrying out in Sudan".

He added that Al-Qadhdhafi wanted to reach the African Horn and then extend his intrigues to the Gulf to realise the aims of those communists and enemies of Islam behind him. However, Sudan is watching out for Al-Qadhdhafi's attempts and will not permit him to fulfill his suspect aims," he siad.

Dr Idris said Sudan would not attend the forthcoming African summit due to be held in Libya under "Al-Qadhdhafi, the agent."

He regretted Zaire's re-establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel and Costa Rica's decision to move its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

The Sudanese minister also warned against Israel's "attempts to return to Africa", and blamed the Arabs' "negative position" which he siad had paved the way for the Israeli enemy to carry out its designs and penetrate the African countries.

Dr Idris urged the Arab countries to adopt a "decisive [word indistinct] towards these attempts.

He also reaffirmed his country's support for the Saudi-sponsored Middle East peace plan, saying the initiative could win the unanimous support of Arabs.

He concluded by supporting Iraq in its war with Iran and endorsing peace efforts being made to put an end to the fighting.

AL-MADINAH EDITORIAL ON ZAIRE-ISRAELI RELATIONS

GF231855 Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic 19 May 82 p 2

[Editorial: "The Arab Reaction Should Not Be Weak"]

[Text] Yesterday Gabon declared it is not thinking of restoring relations with the Jewish entity. By so doing, Gabon was reacting to a statement issued by the government of terrorist Begin that said Gabon would be the second African country, after Zaire, to reestablish relations with the Jewish entity. No doubt Gabon's rejection is considered to be a severe blow to the Israelis' ambitions to break out of the isolation they have suffered from and are still suffering from in Africa. Basically, this isolation stems from the fact that the danger caused by Israel as a racist entity is similar to that of the racist regime in South Africa. It is obvious to anyone that Western civilization -- one of whose pillars is Zionism and whose main pillar is the spirit of the modern crusades -- is working unstintingly to consolidate the Israeli entity in the heart of the Islamic world and to emphasize the oppression from which the Islamic world has been suffering as a result of the occupation of Palestine.

We do not doubt the seriousness of the strategy and tactics of Western civilization, which did not hide in the past and does not hide at present its hostility toward Islam and Muslims and its anger at the cohesion of the Islamic world and its endeavor to maintain its religion and spread it among people in an amicable manner. We are aware that the threat of this modern crusader-Zionist-communist planning is more serious now than at any time before. We realize these three evil forces working against Islam seem contradictory with regard to planning, strategy and objectives, but in practice they all meet in hostility toward Islam, hatred toward Muslims and conspiracy against Muslim peoples and against sovereignty and the territorial integrity of Islamic countries. Therefore, the success of the Islamic world in gaining international support for the Palestinian issue harms Zionism and the modern crusaders. This explains the panic of the U.S. administration regarding any international effort aimed at isolating Israel and dismissing it from international society.

The unity of the goals of the modern crusaders, Zionism and communism is demonstrated by the fact that their plans are aimed at splitting the Islamic world, hatching intrigues among its peoples, rulers and countries, and inciting sectarianism in a number of Islamic countries by providing sects with all the means of protection and tools of destruction to suppress the Muslim majority and to undermine its effectiveness.

The convergence of the modern crusaders, Zionism and communism can clearly be seen in the Palestinian issue. The plans of the U.S. administration to protect Israel and defend its crimes in international society can only be justified by hatred of some modern extremist crusaders toward Islam. Otherwise, how can we explain the aberration of U.S. policy in supporting Israel in any criminal act against the Islamic world, its lands, shrines and peoples, while the whole world has expressed its support for the just Arab rights? From this point of view the U.S. pressure on the African countries to reestablish relations with Israel will yield some -- yet limited -- results because, unfortunately, there are some regimes in Africa that owe their existence to external forces. These external forces play a major role in influencing their policies, which are not based on principles or norms. Otherwise, why did Zaire's President Mobutu, for example, reestablish his country's relations with Israel although his regime suffered from foreign ideological aggressions during the Shaba incident? At that time only Morocco sent its troops to support Zaire's regime.

We cannot ignore the danger of President Mobutu's decision and his abandonment of principles and human values with his acceptance to reestablish relations with a colonial, terrorist and racist regime that commits crimes against the Palestinian people, the Arab world and Muslim shrines. We appreciate the political move of the Islamic Conference Organization and the Arab League to contain the relapse in Zaire's stance. We are confident Zaire's decision will not make its relations with the Arab world better than before. Zaire's stance will make us expect similar relapses from a limited number of countries whose political decisions are made outside these countries and against their interest and values. The inconsistency of Arab reaction is the main factor weakening the Arab stance. When the FRG established relations with Israel, the Arab countries severed relations with it. After a short time the Arab countries reestablished relations with that country. The reestablishment of relations with the FRG was a factor that contributed to weakening the Arab reaction to any similar stance.

The Arabs and Muslims are now confronted with many choices in reacting to Zaire's stance. We hope we will not choose an alternative that weakens our Arab reaction to a hostile act like Zaire's.

UAE

AL-KHALIJ PREDICTS U.S.-ISRAEL DEFENSE AGREEMENT

GF211204 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 21 May 82 p 1

[Editorial: "On the Anniversary of Isra' and Mi'raj: 'Khaybar' of the New Epoch"]

[Excerpts] Before Zionist settlement began in Palestine, the Israelis led a peaceful life in the shade of the noble canonical law of Islam.

However, the Zionist movement revived the Jewish history of intrigue against the Muhammadan mission to the detriment of the Arabs and Muslims in the 1920's until the Zionist movement, in collaboration with British and American enemies of the Arabs, was able to usurp Palestine completely, expand at the expense of Arab territories, and exercise hostility and tyranny against the real people of Palestine.

Information currently available says the visit by Ariel Sharon to the United States in late May will result in the conclusion of a "joint defense" agreement between the United States and Israel. This agreement will fully harmonize Tel Aviv and Washington with regard to "national and foreign" policies and stands. Israel will in effect become a U.S. stand-in in the Middle East.

Therefore, this matter offers the Arabs and Muslims the following alternatives: Either Arabs and Muslims remain strong and honorable in their countries and play their historic civilizing role or they agree to live in humiliation and servility under the control of Israel and the United States.

TANZANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER POSTPONES VISIT

GF220943 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0745 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 May (WAKH) -- It was announced in Abu Dhabi today that the visit Tanzanian Foreign Minister Salim Ahmad Salim was supposed to make to the UAE today has been postponed. WAM, which reported the news, did not provide an explanation for the postponement but said that the visit will take place at a time to be determined later.

It is known that the Tanzanian minister is currently touring a number of Arabian Gulf states.

PDRY

JOINT YSP-CPCZ COMMUNIQUE ON BILAK VISIT

LD232240 Aden ANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] 23 May (ANA) -- The following is the text of the joint communique published today on the result of the talks in Aden 20-21 May between the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] and the Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ]:

At the invitation of the YSP Central Committee and Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, Central Committee general secretary, Presidium chairman and prime minister, a CPCZ delegation led by Comrade Vasil Bilak, Presidium member and CPCZ Central Committee secretary, paid an official working visit to the PDRY 20-21 May. The CPCZ delegation met with Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, YSP Central Committee secretary general, Presidium chairman and prime minister.

The delegation held talks with the YSP delegation led by Abu Bakr 'Abd ar-Razzaq Ba Dhib, Politburo member and Central Committee secretary, in an atmosphere of friendship and understanding reflecting the depth of friendship and relations of struggle between the two fraternal parties and countries. The YSP delegation acquainted the CPCZ delegation with the PDRY's achievements in implementing the resolutions of the extraordinary general conference, and with tireless and persistent struggle for consolidating the YSP's leadership role in various fields, [word indistinct] for consolidating the position of the progressive regime in the PDRY and for [word indistinct] of the national economy in order to achieve a continued rise in the people's standard of living. They also acquainted the guests with the PDRY's efforts to realize Yemeni unity on peaceful and democratic bases.

The CPCZ delegation expressed its utmost satisfaction with the revolutionary development process in the PDRY, the development of the party's leading role, the achievements realized on the path of the people's social progress and the efforts aimed at realizing the unity of the Yemeni people on democratic bases and by peaceful means.

For its part, the CPCZ delegation acquainted the YSP delegation with the socialist achievements accomplished in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in recent years, the strong efforts made to implement the resolutions of 16th CPCZ congress on the construction of a developed socialist society. The YSP delegation was also acquainted with the peaceful and constructive foreign policy followed by the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic [CSSR] as part of the socialist bloc [word indistinct] for consolidating world peace, checking the arms race and easing international tension.

The YSP delegation expressed great satisfaction with the [word indistinct] achievements realized in the CSSR under the leadership of the CPCZ and greatly praised the CSSR's peaceful and constructive foreign policy.

The two sides expressed extreme satisfaction with the development of comradely relations between the YSP and the CPCZ. They stressed that the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the two countries, signed by Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and Gustav Husak in Aden in September, 1981, constituted a firm basis for the future development of bilateral cooperation in various fields. The two sides reviewed current developments in the international situation and expressed anxiety over the aggressive course of the present administration [as received] and the aggressive circles in NATO that seek to promote the arms race and invent new destructive weapons. They stressed that this course constitutes a threat to world peace and the future of mankind as a whole. In this respect they welcomed the constructive peace proposals put forward by the Soviet Union aimed at limiting the arms race and lessening tension in the world and also at creating trust in international relations; they expressed support for the draft resolution proposed by the Soviet Union regarding avoiding a nuclear disaster, and for the draft resolution proposed by Czechoslovakia regarding international cooperation in disarmament, the two draft resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly's 36th session.

The two sides particularly expressed deep concern about the NATO decision to deploy American medium-range missiles in West Europe and they expressed their conviction that the Western powers' submission to this decision will open a dangerous stage in the arms race and destroy the achievements that have been realized in Europe as a result of the European security and cooperation conference.

In this connection, the two delegations noted the new Soviet initiative announced by Comrade Leonid Brezhnev at the 27th congress of Soviet trade unions concerning the Soviet Union's decision to unilaterally freeze the level of medium-(?range) missiles in the European part of the Soviet Union. They considered this to be profound proof of the sincerity of the Soviet Union and the community of socialist states toward the cause of peace and a genuine expression of the desire to open the way to the resumption of the Geneva talks in order to reach an agreement on limiting strategic weapons and missiles in Europe.

Concerning Middle East developments, the two delegations observed the moves aimed at implementing the second stage of the Camp David agreements to expand their framework by establishing a strategic alliance directed at the forces of socialism and progress and the Arab liberation forces and at the expense of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The two sides denounced Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights in contravention of the UN resolutions and the will of international opinion, and its barbaric aggressions against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples in Beirut and southern Lebanon. These acts provide clear proof of the expansionist spirit of the Israeli aggressors and their imperialist allies.

The two sides affirmed that the Palestine question is the essence of the Middle East conflict and that no just and comprehensive solution can be reached without Israel's unconditional withdrawal from all the Arab teritories occupied in 1967 including Jerusalem, the establishment of the national rights of the Palestinian people including their right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent national state for them on their own land.

The two sides reiterated their constant support for the struggle of the Palestinian people and for the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The two sides also expressed their full solidarity with the Lebanese people and the Nationalist Movement in the fight against imperialist Zionist aggression in Lebanon.

The two sides expressed their support for the Soviet proposals for an international conference on the Middle East to be attended by the PLO on an equal footing with other concerned parties.

The two sides condemned the so-called Palestinian autonomy talks and praised the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in their occupied territory and their constant uprising against the occupation authorities.

The two sides condemned the arbitrary suppressive measures used by the Israeli occupation authorities against the Arab citizens of the occupied Arab territory, that are contrary to international charters and tradition. The CPCZ delegation, led by Vasil Bilak, praised the role of the PDRY and the countries of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front in the struggle against capitulatory solutions to the Middle East crisis and for the unity of Arab work opposed to imperialist and Zionist schemes.

The two sides condemned the imperialist provocative and threatening attempts against the Libyan jamahiriyah. They praised the steadfastness of Syria in the face of imperialist, Zionist and reactionary intrigues. The two sides emphasized the importance of cooperation and coordination between Arab countries and the socialist bloc, and the need to bolster the alliance with the socialist, progressive and liberation forces that support the just Arab cause.

The two sides paid great attention to the dangerous direction of U.S. policy in the Indian Ocean, the Gulf and the Red Sea regions, a threat to the region's security and peace. They denounced the continued expansion of the U.S. military presence and the construction of a network of imperialist military bases in many of the region's countries, and their efforts to establish strategically linked blocs.

The two sides emphasized the firm right of the Gulf region, the Arabian Peninsula and the Indian Ocean countries to safeguard their security without any foreign interference, and their lawful right to administer their natural wealth freely. In this context, the CPCZ delegation praised 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's initiative on convening a summit meeting of the Gulf, Arabian Peninsula, the African Horn countries and the concerned parties.

The two sides supported the Soviet proposals for transforming the Indian Ocean and the Gulf regions into zones of peace. They expressed their conviction of the importance of those initiatives and proposals in working toward the liquidation of foreign military bases and the realization of peace and stability in the region.

The two sides expressed their deep concern over the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war, and the efforts of the imperialist forces aimed at exploiting the dispute in order to realize their ambitions and to impose their domination in the region. They stressed their support for the efforts aimed at ending the war and reaching an agreement [word indistinct] the two peoples through peaceful dialogue.

The two sides reiterated their solidarity with the Ethiopian revolution and praised the efforts of the Ethiopian leadership aimed at safeguarding the country's national independence and territorial integrity.

The CPCZ delegation acquainted itself with the coordination of cooperation between the PDRY, Ethiopia and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah which embodies the spirit of the treaty of friendship and cooperation signed by the three countries. Comrade Vasil Bilak expressed his country's support for the three countries' efforts to bolster solidarity among their peoples and to strengthen their alliance which is directed against imperialism and its designs in the area.

The two sides lauded the revolutionary achievements of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and firmly denounced the flagrant intervention by world imperialism and reactionary forces in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. They stressed the need to solve the problem through peaceful negotiations based on the constructive proposals put forward by the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan with a view to the normalization of relations with its neighbors.

The two sides also expressed their full support for the peoples of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos for the establishment of security and stability in Southeast Asia and for thwarting the imperialist reactionary plans and for the realization of social progress.

The two sides firmly denounced imperialist attempts to prevent the people of Namibia from attaining [word indistinct] and sovereignty and affirmed their support for SWAPO as the sole legitimate representative of the people of Namibia.

They also expressed their full support for the struggle of the people of South Africa and their revolutionary vanguard, the African National Congress, against the racist regime. They also firmly denounced the aggressive attacks waged by South Africa against neighboring African countries, particularly Angola and Mozambique.

Comrade Abu Bakr Ba Dhib and Comrade Vasil Bilak expressed their complete satisfaction with the results of the talks which reflect the identity of views on all issues discussed. These results also affirm the two parties' determination to continue to develop and bolster bilateral cooperation in all fields.

The CPCZ delegation expressed its deep cordial gratitude for the welcome it received during its stay in the PDRY.

Comrade Vasil Bilak invited the YSP to send a delegation to visit Czechoslovakia. The invitation was gratefully accepted and its date will be fixed later.

MUBARAK VIEWS ARAB RELATIONS, IRAN-IRAQ WAR

NC232336 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2215 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 23 May (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak has said Egypt abides by a clear policy concerning Arab relations, the Iraqi-Iranian war, the autonomy talks problems and the issues related to the region's security and stability.

During his meeting today with leaders of the Egyptian press that lasted over 2 hours, President Mubarak stressed that Egypt allows Arab brothers the freedom to take the initiative on the restoration of Arab relations with Egypt at the time they deem suitable, without any pressure on or embarassment for anyone. During the meeting, details of which Cairo papers will publish in Monday's editions, President Mubarak expounded on Egypt's stand toward the Iraqi-Iranian war. He said Egypt's policy is clear on this. It does not want or support this war. At the same time, he said, Egypt is opposed to the seizure of the land of one country by another or to occupying it by force. He said Egypt is helping Iraq by giving it ammunition only.

On speculations about convening an Arab summit conference to which Egypt would be invited, President Mubarak said Egypt will not participate in any Arab summit conference unless there is common background between Egypt and the Arabs and unless there are sound diplomatic relations.

On the autonomy talks, President Mubarak said there is a big gap between us and Israel, but we must continue to the end of the course.

On Egypt's internal policy, President Mubarak affirmed that the establishment of internal stability and the concentration of efforts on resolving our economic problems must be our primary goal. Artificial issues and useless spheres must not divert our attention from this goal. President Mubarak discussed the meaning of the change certain people are demanding, saying we are not against change aiming at helping us resolve our problems and surmount the obstacles facing us. We do not support change for its own sake or change that might lead to confusion and instability. He said the change must be in the method of work, in those in charge of work and in the leading cadres. He said the National Democratic Party will witness certain changes in the next few days.

President Mubarak demanded that journalists exert positive efforts and exercise constructive criticism in the public interest. He gave an example of the report published by certain party papers about Eng 'Izz ad-Din Hilal, deputy prime minister for production and petroleum minister, saying he resigned and settled in Switzerland. President Mubarak said the press must shun false distortions of officials' reputation. He said Engineer Hilal is one of the most decent people he has known and there is no justification in rumormongering about a minister whose health condition forced him to seek treatment abroad.

MUBARAK, POLITICAL GROUP DISCUSS FOREIGN POLICY

NC220920 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0905 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 22 May (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met at al-'Urubah Palace this morning with the political group, comprising: Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, People's Assembly speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib, Consultative Council speaker Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Defense and War Production Minister Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha and Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary and director of the Presidential Office for Foreign Affairs Dr Usamah al-Baz.

Following the meeting, which lasted over 2 hours, Dr Usamah al-Baz told journalists that the president met with his advisers and some of his top aides to discuss several issues related to domestic issues and foreign policy. The discussions centered on the Middle East, particularly the autonomy talks and developments in the Iraq-Iran war.

On what was discussed regarding autonomy, Dr Usamah al-Baz said: We are working to reactivate the talks to achieve a declaration of principles acceptable to the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. No agreement has yet been reached on a date for resuming the talks or on their venue. Asked whether Egypt is expected to carry out activity on the autonomy talks, Dr al-Baz said: No approximate date can be set in the coming stage. Asked about the steps taken to give impetus to the talks, he said: Naturally, we discussed the subject again to see how to activate the talks in light of recent contacts, the conclusion of the mission of U.S. envoy to the Middle East Richard Fairbanks, his return to Washington, the submission of his report to U.S. officials and our receipt of the various reactions.

Asked what is new in Middle East issues and what was discussed during the meeting, Dr al-Baz said: We discussed the Iraq-Iran war and the possible ways it may develop in the coming few weeks. We are studying all its political and military aspects and are watching developments there with great attention in view of Egypt's concern for the strategic security of the Arab nation. On whether Egypt is expected to play a mediating role between Iran and Iraq, Dr Usamah al-Baz said: Our relations with the parties concerned are restricted [mahkumah], but we are working and talking with many parties with a view to ending this war as soon as possible.

Replying to a question on the types of arms Egypt is giving Iraq and whether these have changed, Dr Usamah al-Baz said: We are constantly supplying Iraq with its basic requirements for ammunition and some equipment to meet its recurring needs. In some phases of combat operations certain demands come up, but there has been no change in the type of ammunition Iraq is requesting.

On what has been reiterated about the Moroccan foreign minister's visit to Egypt, Dr al-Baz said: We have not officially received word that the Moroccan foreign minister will arrive soon. All we have is what has been carried by the news agencies, quoting Moroccan sources during the Moroccan foreign minister's visit to Washington.

On whether Egypt will attend the nonaligned summit conference in Baghdad, Dr al-Baz said: This matter has not been presented to us and no side has informed us about it. On Egyptian-Arab-African meetings, Dr al-Baz said: For some time now we have been working with the fraternal African states and the nonaligned states. Our aim is clear and known: To boost the Nonaligned Movement and to give it more strength and movement at the international level. As for African affairs, our interest in them is constant.

On whether some internal issues were raised, Dr al-Baz said: The meeting followed up the subjects raised during the president's meeting with the ministers and governors with a view to bolstering the governorates and decentralization and to confronting the existing problems and the way to remedy them. On the president's visit to worksites, Dr Usamah al-Baz said the president has been intending to do so for some time. These are unofficial visits to inspect the worksites and to directly familiarize himself with conditions and meet the masses to learn their views. There is no official program. The basic idea is to work at increasing production.

On coordination between the ministers and the governors and whether this means a conflict exists between them, Dr al-Baz said there is no conflict in this sense. He added with the experiment of giving the governors independent powers they received presidential powers in certain matters and executive powers in others, and in view of this even when the ministries plan certain activities, the governorates assume implementation and supervision.

The idea is to eliminate some bottlenecks and [word indistinct] deal with matters -- it is more a coordination of contact than the elimination of any conflict in jurisdictions.

On the Arab states and the initiatives they have made and whether this matter was discussed, Dr al-Baz said: This matter was not put before us and we leave matters for their appropriate time and to the extent that Arab states see appropriate to achieve the general interest. We have declared out readiness to improve relations in all domains with the Arab brothers. This is all we can offer at the present time and there are no initiatives which we seek.

On Egypt's return to the Arab states or the return of the Arab states to Egypt, Dr al-Baz said: The Arab states have no specific view on this or other subjects. The important thing is that there are good intentions and that such intentions are increasing. As for the adoption of specific steps, we do not hurry things up nor do we seek to have any Arab side hurry up. We will leave this matter for the time and the manner in which the common national interest can be achieved. We do not ask anything from the fraternal states. We have actually done what we can in this regard, namely, the improvement of the climate of relations. All the Arab states are aware Egypt is the heart of the Arab states and their basic support at present and in the future. After all this, we do not ask for the adoption of any steps.

AGREEMENT WITH JORDAN TO INCREASE DIPLOMATS

NC240944 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0907 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 24 May (MENA) -- It has been decided to increase the number of diplomats in the Egyptian interests mission in Amman and to increase the number of diplomats in the Jordanian mission in Cairo in view of the increase in the volume of business between the two countries.

The weekly newspaper MAY reports Jordan has sent a new diplomat and an administrative official to join its mission in Cairo. First Secretary Muhammad Rifa'ah, who has been working in the office of Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, has flown to Amman.

The paper notes that some Arab embassies in Cairo are holding contacts with the Egyptian Foreign Ministry on increasing the number of their employees on the basis of reciprocity. The paper says Minister Plenipotentiary Nabil Badr, head of the Egyptian interests mission in Jordan, arrived in Cairo last week to hold consultations after meeting Jordan's King Husayn. Nabil Badr is carrying importnat messages. A date is to be set for their delivery to senior officials. He will return to Amman in the next 2 days.

TABAH TALKS TO BE RESUMED IN BEERSHEBA 25 MAY

NC201302 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1235 GMT 20 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 20 May (MENA) -- Egyptian-Israeli talks on implementing the agreement concluded between the two countries on 26 April on resolving the Tabah dispute will be resumed in Beersheba on Tuesday.

The Egyptian side will be led by Rear Adm Muhsin Hamdi and will include Ambassador Fawzi al-Ibrashi, 'Ismat Rida and Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab. The Israeli side will be led by General Si'on.

The talks will also deal with the deployment and task in Tabah of the multinational force and the provisional arrangements in the area pending a final solution to the dispute.

PARLIAMENTARY GROUP CALLS FOR ARAB SOLIDARITY

NC221944 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1830 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 22 May (MENA) -- The People's Assembly Arab Affairs Committee met tonight under its chairman, Muhammad Hamid Mahmud. The meeting was attended by Muhammad Rashwah, minister of state for People's Assembly and Consultative Council affairs.

In a statement issued after the meeting, the committee affirmed that Arab solidarity is the Arab nation's weapon to achieve its pan-Arab aspirations and that the restoration of this solidarity is the responsibility of every Arab sincere toward his nation and Arabism so the Arab may be unified to strengthen the active forces in the international arena and drive the peace process to restore the Arab right.

The committee also affirmed that the Palestine problem is the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict and that unless this problem can be justly resolved, guaranteeing the Palestinian people their right to self-determination, peace in the region will not be possible.

The committee stressed that Jerusalem is an inseparable part of the occupied West Bank and all Israeli measures concerning it are void and contradict all international resolutions and laws.

The committee expressed deep concern about recent developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war and drew attention to the dangers of the continuation of this war and its serious implications for the security of the area in general and the Gulf in particular. The committee urged the Iraqi and Iranian Governments to put an end to the destructive war, stop the shedding of Muslim blood and to stop exhausting the energy and resources of the two fraternal peoples. The committee affirmed the Egyptian Government's stance and handling of this crisis and the steps it is adopting to prevent a further deterioration of the situation, to pave a suitable atmostphere and to create a balance to drive the conflicting parties to resolve their differences by peaceful means and in a just way.

At its meeting tonight the committee reviewed the latest developments in the situation in the Arab arena in light of the current changes and discussed the way it will move in the coming phase in light of these changes.

MUBARAK, SUDANESE MINISTER DISCUSS INTEGRATION

NC230958 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0905 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 23 May (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Sudanese Interior Minister Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman Muhammad at Al-'Urubah Palace this morning. The meeting was attended by Egyptian Interior Minister Husan Abu Basha.

Following the meeting, the Sudanese interior minister said his visit to Egypt is within the framework of the integration process between the two countries. He said priority in the integration process must be given to coordination and exchange of expertise betweeen the security departments of the two countries. He said specialized technicians in these departments have held several meetings to prepare objectives in the form of programs.

The Sudanese interior minister said: I was pleased to meet with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, who kindly gave me several instructions in the field of the joint work for the benefit of the two peoples and to achieve the hopes of the two peoples, who are joined by a common destiny. He added: I thanked President Mubarak for his instructions. His Excellency asked me to convey sincere greetings to his brother, President Ja'far Numayri.

The Sudanese interior minister arrived in Cairo on Monday at the invitation of his Egyptian counterpart, Hasan Abu Basha.

GHALI, PORTUGUESE PRESIDENT DISCUSS MIDDLE EAST

NC221156 Cairo MENA in English 1145 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Lisbon, 22 May (MENA) -- President Antonio Ramalho Eanes has accepted an invitation extended to him by his Egyptian counterpart, Husni Mubarak, to visit Cairo, and expressed hope that the visit would take place shortly, it was learnt today. The invitation was contained in a message which visiting Egyptian State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali delivered to President Eanes, who received him last night.

During the meeting that lasted ninety minutes, President Eanes requested Dr Ghali to convey to President Mubarak his personal appreciation of the efforts he was making at present to build up Egypt internally and to keep the peace process going.

Dr Ghali also said later that he briefed the Portuguese president on the latest Mideast developments and Egypt's keenness on crowning the Palestinian autonomy negotiations with success and on encouraging various initiatives designed to bring about an overall settlement in the region. He also expounded Egypt's keen desire to encourage further European contribution in this connection. The situation in Africa, the impact of the Iraq-Iran war on security and stability in the Middle East as well as means of enhancing bilateral relations were also discussed, Dr Ghali said.

Dr Ghali will be today the guest of honour at a luncheon given by Secretary-General of the Portuguese Socialist Party Mario Soares. The Egyptian minister is also scheduled to meet several African ambassadors accredited in Portugal.

Dr Ghali had arrived here on Thursday for a four-day official visit, during which he conferred with the premier, the president of the Assembly of the Republic, the foreign and defence ministers and chairman of the Christian Democratic Party. He will leave Lisbon tomorrow afternoon on his way to Brussels, for an official visit that will last till Friday.

AL-AHRAM SCORES ISRAELI DESTRUCTION OF YAMIT

NC170830 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 17 May 82

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-AHRAM says the report on extending electric cables from the Sinai to the Palestinian city of Rafah thrills every Egyptian. This is the first constructive initiative by Egyptian hands on the Israeli destruction. It says supplying electricity to light the homes of Palestinian families free of charge has another connotation. It emphasizes the blood relations between the two parts of Rafah and the close relations between Egypt and the Palestine issue. This again shows Egypt's Arab image to those who still deny or cast doubt on it.

AL-AHRAM points out Israel's destruction of electric cables, wells and the houses in Yamit is incomprehensible. Perhaps it is a fateful coincidence to show the Egyptians' abilities in bringing life to the desert. It is certain this Israeli measure is prompted by anger and nothing else, and lacks consideration and foresight.

Yamit, for example, is proof to other settlers that this fate can befall their settlements in the future. They will be destroyed in spite of their will, no matter how long they stay there. In addition, such an action raises indignation because it signifies Israel still prefers rupture of relations to establishing relations, ill will to cooperation and destruction to reparation.

In conclusion AL-AHRAM says Egypt should always try to build where Israel destroys, tie links that Israel breaks and preach good when Israel behaves badly.

AL-AHRAM RAPS IRAN'S POSITION ON WAR WITH IRAQ

NC202326 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 20 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 20 May (MENA) -- In Friday's issue, AL-AHRAM criticizes the condition made by the Iranian prime minister for a peaceful settlement of the Iraq-Iran war, which is the toppling of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's regime. The paper also criticizes the Iranian threat to continue the war until this objective is achieved.

The paper says this cannot be considered a responsible statement because it means a comprehensive war whose end even Iran cannot predict. In its commentary the paper refers to the successive Iranian threats against the Gulf states and the plots to undermine their regimes. The paper says on this basis it is possible to say Iran is moving on a road which is perilous not only for itself but also for the rest of the states in the area and in a manner threatening to cause dreadful conflagrations that will exceed by all measures and standards what Iran claims as its right to act to liberate its territories.

AL-AHRAM says it is clear the implications of the Iranian position are causing concern. This is evident in the support it is receiving from Israel and some Arab states which confirm that selfish interests are playing an important role in this war. Some of the big powers also have a finger in this war in order to find through it a way to the Gulf area.

The paper also says there are vicious and desperate attempts to rekindle the situation in the Middle East through means other than the familiar "Palestinian issue." The purpose of this attempt is to drown this issue in other seas of chaos and blood as part of other aims, no longer secret to anyone and to which Iran is being drawn deliberately or unknowingly.

The paper calls for the mobilization of all efforts to end this war between Iran and Iraq and to speed up a peaceful settlement ensuring the just rights of the two sides in order to stop the bloodshed and to safeguard the principle of solving international disputes by peaceful means.

IRANIAN 'INTRANSIGENCE,' ARAB UNITY DISCUSSED

NC201759 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 May 82

['Atiyah 'Isawi commentary: "The Truth Behind the Intransigent Iranian Stance"]

[Text] It is not difficult for the observer of the Iraqi-Iranian war's progress, entering its 20th month, to observe the intensity of the Iranian intransigence toward any attempt to solve the conflict peacefully -- by either refusing the peaceful proposals or ignoring them. A number of sides have expended their good-will efforts to solve the conflict through negotiations, such as the United Nations, the Islamic Conference Organization, the Arab League, the Nonaligned Movement and other collective and individual attempts. However, and regretfully, these efforts have been exerted to no avail in view of the Iranian leaders' intransigence and their refusal to negotiate to uproot the causes of the problem.

The observer of the developments in the region's situation, since the Iranian revolution took over in February 1979, notices that the Iranian rulers have followed a new course in international conventions by their continuous accusations against the rulers of the Arab states in general, and the Gulf states in particular, that they do not apply Islam as it should be applied and, consequently, they do not deserve the positions they occupy and must be overthrown, and revolutions similar to the Iranian revolution should be initiated.

From this Iranian course we infer that the intention was harbored to incite disturbances in the Gulf region and to establish in these states regimes similar and loyal to the ruling Iranian regime. It is possible in this regard to point out the abortive coup organized by Iran's lackeys in Bahrain in December 1981.

From the Tehran rulers' stance, from the time the Iranian revolution took over, we can also infer that the Iranian intransigence, that caused all the efforts to settle the Iraqi-Iranian conflict peacefully to fail, has aimed at exploiting the continuation of the war in order to perpetuate the tense situation and to prepare the appropriate atmosphere for achieving these rulers' intentions. In addition, the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war helps divert the explosive public opinion in Iran from the faults of the ruling regime and the attempt to unite the ranks to face what they describe as a foreign danger, overlooking, if temporarily, the faults of the rulers. This is a known game, that has been played by several previous ruling regimes, and they are continuing to play it in order to stay in power. Anyone looking back on the recent past remembers the anger and fragmentation inflicted upon the Iranian people from the ruling regime, from which great hopes were expected to be fulfilled by delivering the people from injustice and the drawbacks of the past, had reached its climax in the past months with the massive explosions that caused the death of the Iranian president and prime minister and many other leaders.

Therefore, we call for the immediate unity of the Arab ranks and for forgetting peripheral differences in order to face this danger which may bring foreign powers into the arena and which renders the situation in this area worse and more dangerous than it has been -- an area upon which the eyes of greedy aliens center.

It is regrettable that the Arabs are divided into supporters and opponents of the Iranian stance, which encourages the Iranians to continue fighting and to maintain the existing tense situation, believing they are fighting for a sound cause since some Arab states support them. An Arab stance is necessary in order to face this danger and to be able to work through every means to put an immediate end to the fighting, and then to look for a peaceful solution to the problem and to ask the international court of justice to arbitrate in the conflict in accordance with the international covenants in which the two fighting states are members. [as heard]

It does not hurt to recall the honorable Egyptian stance in this regard when it hastened to meet the Iraqi needs in spite of the fact that diplomatic relations with Iraq are severed, showing that the Egyptian leadership realizes the dangers involved in the continuation of the war or its end without the realization of Iraqi interests.

'ALI, GHALI CONSIDER JERUSALEM COPTIC MONASTERY

NC181518 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 18 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 18 May (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today met with Jerusalem Archibishop (Vasilios), who presented the opinion of the Coptic Church on the subject of As-Sultan Monastery, which the Egyptian Coptic Church in Jerusalem has been demanding be returned.

Meanwhile, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali summoned Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Moshe Sason to discuss the situation of the Coptic Church in Jerusalem and the occupied territories. Dr Ghali discussed with the Israeli ambassador the necessity of respecting the rights of the Egyptian Coptic Church and of finding a quick solution guaranteeing the church's recovery of its rights.

It is worth noting As-Sultan Monastery in Jerusalem is owned by the Egyptian Coptic Church, but the Israeli authorities have given it to the Ethiopian church. The Egyptian Coptic Church rejected this decision and was sustained by the Israeli Supreme Court

MAURITANIAN MINISTER ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

JN210854 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0745 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 21 May (INA) -- Mohamed Ould Sidi, Mauritanian deputy minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, arrived here last night on a short visit to Iraq. In a statement to INA, the Mauritanian official said he is carrying a message from the Mauritanian president on bolstering relations between the two brotherly countries.

Meets With Hammadi

JN221216 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi received this morning Dr Mohamed Ould Sidi, deputy minister of foreign affairs and special envoy to President Saddam Husayn from Mauritanian President Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala. Discussions during the meeting centered on bilateral relations and the means to promote and strengthen them as well as the latest developments in the war imposed on our struggling country by the racist Iranian regime. They also discussed the preparations for the seventh summit conference of the nonaligned heads of state and government in Baghdad next September. Sidi asserted Mauritania's stand alongside our country in its just war against the aggressive Iranians.

Delivers Haydala Message

JN230849 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0810 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 23 May (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn recieved a written message from Mauritanian President Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala, dealing with the dimensions of brotherly cooperation between the two fraternal countries. Mohamed Ould Sidi, deputy minister of foreign affairs, deliveredthe message when he was received by the president this morning. The meeting was attended by Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, Revolution Command Council secretary general and acting head of the president's office, Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, minister of the foreign affairs and the Mauritanian ambassador in Baghdad.

Departs 24 May

JN240929 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0810 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 24 May (INA) -- Mohamed Ould Sidi, Mauritanian deputy minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, left Baghdad for home today at the end of a 3-day visit to Iraq. While here, the Mauritanian official delivered a written message to President Saddam Husayn from Mauritanian President Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala, dealing with spheres of cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

OPEC COUNCIL ASKED TO WITHHOLD AID TO ZAIRE

JN210915 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 21 May (INA) -- Iraq has asked the ministerial council of the OPEC Fund to include the subject of suspending aid and loans to Zaire in the agenda of the council's next meeting, which will be held in the capital of Gabon in mid-June. In a statement to INA, Thamir Razuqi, the Iraqi minister of finance and planning, said: This stand comes following Zaire's hostile decision against the Arab nation restoring diplomatic relations with the racist Zionist entity.

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL DENOUNCES ZAIRE

JN221213 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1050 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 22 May (INA) -- Iraq has stressed the need for Arab and African countries to stand firmly against Zaire's unilaterial decision to resume diplomatic relations with the racist Zionist entity.

During his meeting today with the heads of the African diplomatic missions accredited in Baghdad, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin explained that Zaire's action is a violation of OAU resolutions, an act of support for the Zionist entity and a violation of the stands that Arab and African countries had adopted against this entity in all international forums.

The Iraqi official added that by its decision, Zaire has disavowed the Palestinian people's historical rights, is ready to disavow the rights of other peoples seeking liberation and has not complied with the nonaligned countries' viewpoint on this issue.

The Iraqi official informed the heads of the African diplomatic missions that Iraq will adopt appropriate measures against Zaire based on its national and international commitments and reaffirmed its support for Arab-African cooperation and its desire to promote it in all circumstances and to confront racist regimes, particularly the Zionist entity and the South African regime.

ATH-THAWRAH CLAIMS IRANIAN FORCES RETREATING

JN210905 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0718 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 21 May -- The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH says Iraqi units are consolidating their positions along the new lines of fire establshed by the Muhammad al-Qasim, Usamah and Sa'd forces during their major offensive 2 days ago. In a dispatch by its mission in the southern sector, the paper says the Iraqi units are entrenching themselves in case of any new development in the situation.

The paper says it is clear from all the positions visited by the mission that the balance has tipped in favor of the Iraqi forces and the enemy has withdrawn from all lines of contact and sought protection behind barriers deep inside its own territory both north of Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] and west of the Karun.

ATH-THAWRAH says Iraqi artillery and helicopters are dealing with any enemy targets appearing before their positions in other areas not covered by the offensive. The paper affirms that the heavy blow has forced the Iranian enemy to stay out of the no-man's land separating it from our front.

ARMED FORCES COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 718

JN211609 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 May 82

[Communique No 718 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 21 May 1982]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To ward off harm and aggression against the Iraqi people and the Arab nation, the glorious troops of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah continued their military activities in the operational theater last night and today, with the following results:

1. Our gallant forward troops continued to pound enemy positions and units north of the Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] area, killing 21 and destroying 2 tanks, 2 armored personnel carriers, 9 vehicles, 1 tubular launcher, 1 stockpile of hardware, 3 observation posts and 3 enemy troop concentrations.

2. One of our units in the Nowsud area sighted an enemy concentration opposite its positions, pounded it, killed 13 and destroyed 1 gun.

3. Four were killed and one vehicle was destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.

4. Three vehicles were destroyed in the (Jananah) area.

5. One was killed and one bulldozer was destroyed in Mimak opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 39 killed and 2 tanks, 2 armored personnel carriers, 13 vehicles, 1 bulldozer, 1 gun, 1 tubular launcher, 1 stockpile of hardware, 3 observation posts and 3 troop concentrations destroyed.

6. Our sacrifices:

A. In personnel: 17 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: two vehicles damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 May 1982

Communique No 719

JN221642 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 May 82

[Communique No 719 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 22 May 1982]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With zeal and determination, our victorious forces continued their just fighting against the ruling regime in Iran to regain our legitimate rights in land and waters. Our forces in inflicted further losses in life and equipment on the Iranian enemy forces. The following is the outcome of the military operations last night and today:

1. One of our gallant units last night carried out a daring raid against enemy positions and concentrations opposite their positions north of Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr], killing a number of enemy personnel and wounding others and destroying two tanks and two vehicles. Our units pounded enemy positions and concentrations in the same area, killing 41 and destroying 2 armored personnel carriers, 3 vehicles, 1 gun and 4 stockpiles of hardware.

2. Our forward units sighted enemy concentrations in front of their positions in the Iranian area opposite Panjwin and in Nowsud. Our forces attacked them, killing 27 and destroying 2 observation posts.

3. Our valiant fighter planes today raided enemy positions and concentrations north of Al-Muhammarah and other enemy military targets in the southern sector of the operations theater, scoring direct and effective hits, before returning safely to base.

4. Our helicopters today carried out intensive raids against enemy personnel, armor and vehicles north of Al-Muhammarah, scoring direct and effective hits. Our helicopters returned safely to base.

5. Five were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 73 killed and 2 tanks, 2 armored personnel carriers, 5 vehicles, 1 gun, 2 observation posts and 4 stockpiles of hardware destroyed.

6. Our sacrifices:

A. In personnel: 14 marytrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: two vehicles damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 May 1982

Communique No 720

JN231640 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1608 GMT 23 May 82

[Communique No 720 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 23 May 1982]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Dazzle thee: In reality God's plan is to punish them with these things in this life, and that their souls may perish in their very denial of God. [Koranic verse]

1. On the night of 22-23 May, the enemy attacked our units, which are entrusted with defending Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr], in order to enter the city from the north. Our valiant units intercepted the enemy, foiled its attempt and pursued those who infiltrated the area near the Shalamcheh-Al-Muhammarah road inside Iranian territory. The enemy sustained heavy losses.

Following the failure of this attempt, the enemy today attempted to storm Al-Muhammarah with two columns, the first from the Ahvaz-Al-Muhammarah road toward the northern precinct of the city and the second from the northwest of the city toward the northwestern precinct. The courageous forces of Al-Muhammarah confronted the enemy's columns, inflicting grave losses in life and equipment, while the Al-Mansur forces supported by other formations continue their advance from west of the city to crush the enemy's forces in cooperation with the forces of Al-Muhammarah. The battles were still raging when this communique was prepared. We shall provide you with other details in subsequent communiques.

2. Our fighter planes and helicopters joined our ground units during today's battles. Since early this morning, our aircraft have been launching daring combat missions against the enemy units which are fighting our units in the Al-Muhammarah area, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy's armor, vehicles and personnel. Our fighter planes flew 127 combat missions while our helicopters flew 28 combat missions today. All our fighter planes and helicopters returned safety to base.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 May 1982

ATTACK ON AL-MUHAMMARAH 'COMPLETELY FOILED'

JN230704 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0655 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: Following our previous statement, with God's help and the determination of our fighters, the Iranian enemy soldiers which infiltrated the area near the Shalamcheh-Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] road inside Iranian territory has been wiped out. Our forces continue to pound the Iranian enemy on the other axes. The attempt to enter Al-Muhammarah has been completely foiled despite the fact that fighting continues north of the city.

USAMAH FORCES COMMANDER ON NEW MILITARY TACTICS

JN230830 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 23 May (INA) -- The commander of the Usamah forces has stated his forces are carrying out military tactics and methods whose objective is the destruction of the Iranian war machine.

In a statement to the AL-JUMHURIYAH team, he added that in light of this, the large Iranian areas controlled by our armed forces are of no value. He stressed the important thing is to destroy the Iranian war machine. He said his forces and all other Iraqi units along the front are currently implementing this military tactic and method in the battlefields.

The commander of the Usamah forces added that wide-scale attack launched by the Usamah and the Muhammad al-Qasim forces and some units of the Sa'd forces against the enemy units north of the Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] area is an example of this new strategy.

He said the valiant Iraqi units carried out a successful military maneuver when they succeeded in luring the enemy forces into open land then striking them fiercely from every direction. He said Iraqi forces will continue to implement this major objective as determined by the Armed Forces General Command. He stressed the initiative continues to remain in Iraqi forces' hands and these forces are carrying out wide-scale lightning attacks and raids against the enemy forces.

The commander of the Usamah forces concluded by saying the courageous raids destroyed the enemy's semi-regular forces and concentrations.

AL-MUHAMMARAH FORCES INFLICTING HEAVY LOSSES

JN231253 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. After failing to storm Al-Muhammarh [Khorramshahr] last night and having sustained heavy losses, the enemy is now trying to advance toward the city in two columns, the first from the Ahvaz-al-Muhammarah road in the direction of the northern precinct of the city and the second from the northwest [as heard] of the city in the direction of its northwestern precinct. The courageous forces of Al-Muhammarah are confronting the enemy inflicting heavy losses on it while the Al-Mansur forces and the other massive formations continue their advance from west of the city to wipe out the enemy forces in cooperation with the forces of Al-Muhammarah. We shall provide you with other details of the battles. Victory will only come from God.

SOURCE DENIES PRESENCE OF REGULAR ARAB FORCES

JN231721 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1716 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 23 May (INA) -- An authoritative Iraqi spokesman has dismissed reports that there are regular Arab forces in Iraq to confront the Iranian aggression.

In a statement here tonight, the spokesman admitted the presence of volunteers from fraternal Jordan and the YAR with the consent of the Jordanian and YAR Governments, adding that this was announced previously.

The following is the text of the authoritative spokesman's statement: Recently, reports and speculations were disseminated by some foreign and Arab information circles to the effect that there are Egyptian and Jordanian Armed Forces in Iraq to confront the Iranian aggression. We would like to affirm that there are not at this time any regular toops from any Arab country in Iraq. There are volunteers from fraternal Jordan and the YAR with the consent of the Jordanian and the YAR Governments. The participation of these volunteers in carrying out a pan-Arab role similar to other volunteers from Arab countries was officially announced. All these volunteers are fighting alongside their Iraqi brothers in defense of Iraq's land and future and of the Arab nation.

Those responsible for the defense of Arab land and rights, and who adhere to the letter and the spirit of the Arab defense pact, must view favorably any Arab country's readiness to participate with regular or other forces in confronting the Iranian aggression in accordance with the belief in the common fate of the Arab nation, because the Iranian aggression against Iraq is also against the Arab land and man, not only in Iraq but also in the entire Arab homeland.

Therefore, Iraq considers any Arab country's readiness to participate in the pan-Arab battle against the Iranian aggression as being compatible with the collective Arab defense pact which dictates that all signatories consider any aggression against any Arab state as aggression against it and shoulder the responsibility of full solidarity, in all political or military means, with the state which is attacked or threatened. Obviously, the principles of the collective Arab defense pact should be applied to the current state resulting from Iran's war against Iraq since Iran is acting in a manner menacing Iraq's sovereignty and future as well as that of the Arab nation, foremost among which are the Arab Gulf states.

AL-MUHAMMARAH BATTLES DESCRIBED AS 'FIERCEST YET'

JN240907 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 24 May (INA) -- Iraqi journalists from the newspapers ATH-THAWRAH and AL-JUMHURIYAH, who are close to the frontline in the Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] area, have said yesterday Iraqi forces began to implement a plan aimed at encircling and annihilating the Iranian forces.

In a dispatch from its team in the southern sector, ATH-THAWRAH said Iraqi units foiled the extensive Iranian attack launched last night north of Al-Muhammarah and on other fighting axes. The Iraqi units destroyed the enemy forces and inflicted heavy losses on them.

The paper said Iraqi forces managed to contain the impact of the enemy offensive successfully and confronted it with armor, mortar, handgrenades, rocket launchers and light weapons. It added the enemy tried to push huge numbers of troops into the battle with the aim of entering Al-Muhammarah, but the Iraqi forces destroyed them all.

ATH-THAWRAH described yesterday's battles as the fiercest yet. It cited a military source in the battlefield as saying the enemy carried out its offensive from several directions, using several columns, Khomeyni guards and commando brigades. They were supported by tanks in the rear and intensive artillery cover.

The paper stressed the Iraqi units are now imposing a steel cordon around the city of Al-Muhammarah. These units lay in wait for the enemy and managed to kill or wound hundreds of enemy troops. They also brought the enemy forces within range of their light weapons in order to inflict the heaviest possible losses on them.

In a dispatch from its team at the battlefront, the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH said the Iranian enemy lost its balance as a result of the painful blows dealt by our units. This caused the enemy to send more troops en masse to the furnace of destruction.

The team cited a military source in the Al-Muhammarah area as saying the Iraqi forces are continuing their advance in order to achieve the objectives drawn up for them in accordance with a plan to destroy the Iranian war machine. The team said thousands of dead Iranian troops still litter the battlefields. It will be recalled that Communique No 720 of the Armed Forces General Command had earlier announced that the Iraqi units intercepted the enemy's attack, foiled its attempt and pursued its soldiers which infiltrated the area near the Shalamcheh-Al-Muhammarah road inside Iranian territory.

It said the Iranian enemy sustained very heavy losses in life and equipment and that the Al-Mansur forces and other formations allied to it are, in cooperation with the Al-Muhammarah forces, continuing their advance from the western part of the city in order to destroy the enemy forces.

JORDAN, MODERATE ARABS DRAFTING CHARTER ON EGYPT

NC201905 Paris AFP in English 1550 GMT 20 May 82

[By Fu'ad Na'im]

[Text] Amman, 20 May (AFP) -- Jordan and other moderate Arab countries are working on a charter to define "principles to which Eghpt must conform" it it is to reconcile itself with "the great majority" of Arab states, a reliable source said here today. Most Arab countries broke off diplomatic relations with Egypt followings its 1979 peace treaty with Israel. The charter would not be a "series of conditions" for Egypt to fulfill, but a memorandum on munimum requirements for re-establishing full Arab-Egyptians relations, the source said. Sultan Qabus of Oman -- which has not broken off relations with Egypt -- presented Cairo's view to Jordan's King Husayn during a visit here last week.

The Arab moderates were seeking a concensus with Egypt over the issues of the Palestinians, the Israeli-occupied territories including Eastern Jerusalem, and the inter-Arab military defense treaties, the source said. Cairo reportedly is to continue the Camp David negotiations with Israel on the occupied territories with the goal of reaching an agreement on the "just principles" of a peaceful solution, which would allow the Palestine Liberation Organization and other Arab partners to eventually join further talks.

The moderate countries, especially Jordan, expressed "serious reservations" on these Egyptian moves but were observing Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's approach to the problem of Jerusalem with "interest", the source said.

Mr Mubarak has said that a solution must be found which guarantees the rights and liberties of all the inhabitants of Jerusalem. This would seem to favor an internationalization of both the Jewish and Arab parts of Jerusalem, a move often urged by King Husayn.

The source said Egypt's readiness to furnish aid to Iraq and Gulf countries was seen as a "positive element" towards a rapprochement with Cairo. But he added that the moderate countries wanted Egypt to show the same determination in reacting to an eventual Israeli aggression.

KING HUSAYN RECEIVES U.S. ENVOY DRAPER 22 MAY

JN221829 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at Al-Hummar Palace this evening Morris Draper, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs. The discussions dealt with Middle Eastern developments in general and current Lebanese developments in particular.

The meeting was attended by the U.S. charge d'affaires in Amman.

Officials Meet Draper 23 May

JN231304 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Staff Lt Gen ash-Sharif Zayd Ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian armed forces, this morning received in his office Morris Draper, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs.

Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim also received Morris Draper in his office today. The U.S. envoy reviewed the results of his tour in the region and the current situation with Al-Qasim. The foreign minister explained to the U.S. envoy the developments in the situation, especially the continuous Israeli threat against southern Lebanon.

He stressed the dangers facing the security and stability of the region and the need to reach a comprehensive and just peace on the basis of Israel's complete withdrawal from Arab territories occupied in 1967 and to recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to determine their future on their national soil in Palestine.

JORDAN TIMES RAPS WEINBERGER ARMS SALES REMARKS

JN230925 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 23 May 82 p 4

[Editorial: "How Not To Do It"]

[Text] United States Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger has told an audience at the Foreign Policy Association in Washington, D.C. that American arms sales to Jordan and other Arab states must be viewed in the context that the U.S. commitment to Israel's security is an "unshakeable fact", and that America is firmly committed to maintaining Israel's technological superiority over the Arab states. Mr Weinberger then went on to add that the U.S. wants to establish a network of alliances and a network of friends in the region so as to deter attack against the U.S. and its allies and also to protect the security of Israel. "We think we can do that best if we have more than one friend in the Middle East," he added.

How interesting. We suggest that Mr. Weinberger's performance at the Foreign Policy Association be re-enacted and documented on film, and shown to all future American diplomats and foreign policy decision-makers as the way that senior American officials should not act if their aim is to win friends and enhance the interests of the United States in the Middle East. Mr. Weinberger, wittingly or otherwise, has pin-pointed the fundamental flaw in American policy in the region -- the desire to enhance security relationships with Arab states while doing so only, or primarily, within the context of America's commitment to Israeli military superiority. Isn't it clear that somewhere down the road the American commitment to Israel and the American desire for Arab friends will clash, leaving America with nice sounding principles but an unworkable policy and a dwindling circle of real friends? Or has that happened already? Is that the lesson of the past five years?

SYRIA'S STANCE ON ARAB SOLIDARITY ASSAILED

JN221741 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 May 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The Impotent Syrian Regime"]

[Excerpts] The ruling regime in Arab Syria is a regime of terror and fascism. It deals with the Arab brothers through blackmail, interference and accusations. It craves for the simplest excuse to interfere and raise empty slogans.

The Syrian regime is talking about sharp turning points and is calling on its few agents to overthrow certain regimes; it asks those who do not believe in it or in its practices to join its opportunistic path. The threats of this regime against the Arab nation have failed; the regime has also failed to suppress the internal uprisings against its terrorist presence in fraternal Lebanon. Now it is failing even to muster the support of the sectarian groups existing in some Arab states. It is better if we call the Syrian regime the regime of impotency. It is impotent internally, within the Arab region and among the sectarian groups in the Arab homeland.

If we review the important events this impotent regime created or helped to create over the past few weeks, we will find that it could do nothing else but cut off the Iraqi oil pipelines in order to stab the Arab nation in the back and close Syria's border with Iraq.

Through these moves, the regime paid a heavy price, in terms of its pan-Arabism and patriotism, to break the isolation round it. The Syrian regime has reached the point where it has become willing to pay any price to create a momentary break in the isolation imposed by its policy of blackmail, terror and the negligence of its pan-Arab and national duties.

However, it is not strange that whenever a strong attempt at Arab solidarity is made, the Syrian regime unleashes its terror and blackmail against it. This is because the regime is not involved with the attempt and hence becomes its enemy. Furthermore, the regime uses this attempt for blackmail. It is also not strange for this impotent regime to work toward ensuring the transfer of arms from Israel to Iran and to fear the momentum of Arab solidarity.

The Syrian regime is like a student who fails in his class and wants everyone else to fail. It is like a drowning man who wants others to drown. It is like the complacent person who misses the train of his people and nation and, therefore, wants the train to blow up and the journey to stop.

AL-MUSTAQBAL SAYS HUSAYN'S USSR VISIT POSTPONED

JN231225 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 22 May 82 p 12

[Text] King Husayn's visit to the USSR, which was to take place this spring, has been postponed as a result of the latest developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war.

AFP: PARLIAMENTARY LEADER TO LEAVE FOR MOSCOW

NC231535 Paris AFP in English 1519 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Amman, 23 May (AFP) -- The President of Jordan's Consultative Council (parliament), Sulayman 'Arar, will go to Moscow tomorrow for an official visit of several days, informed sources said here today.

BOMB OUTSIDE FRENCH EMBASSY ENTRANCE KILLS 13

NC240718 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] About 13 people were killed and wounded as a result of a car bomb explosion -- a Renault 12, license plate number 273916 -- near the entrance of the French Embassy on Clemenceau Streeet in Beirut at 0810 [0610 GMT] today. The explosion threw the vehicle inside the embassy compound, according to initial reports. As a result of the explosion, a fire broke out. Fire brigade vehicles and ambulances have rushed to the scene of the incident to evacuate the casualties to the hospital. The internal security forces have cordoned off the area and banned traffic and movement there.

A number of citizens were gathered at the entrance of the embassy to obtain visas. The street was also conjested with pedestrians and vehicles.

AFP Report

NC240726 Paris AFP in English 0725 GMT 24 May 82

[Excerpts] Beirut, 24 May (AFP) -- At least 12 people were killed early today when a car-bomb exploded outside the entrance of the French Embassy in west Beirut. Most of the dead were in a queue outside the embassy waiting for visas when the bomb exploded at 8:10 am (0610 GMT). The final casualty toll is expected to be much higher.

The blast blew the wrecked car into the courtyard of the chancellery and it landed in front of the main door leading to the embassy offices. The dead included one of the 12 French paratroopers who have been guarding Ambassador Paul-Marc Henri since his predecessor Louis Delamare was slain by two gunmen last September. On April 15, gunmen killed embassy cipher-clerk Guy Cavallo and his pregnant wife in their Beirut flat.

No French diplomats were injured by the car-bomb. Ambulances were still rushing to the scene 45 minutes later, taking casualties to the nearby American Hospital.

The explosion caused a fire but this was soon extinguished by two fire engines. Every window was blown out of the building opposite the embassy, and luxury boutiques in its basement were wrecked. Lebanese security units were quickly on the scene and sealed off the area. They fired into the air to clear crowds and allow ambulances to pass.

An anonymous telephone caller claiming to speak for the "Al-Jihad al-Muqaddas" (Holy War) organisation later told the AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE bureau here that it was responsible "for all explosions which have already taken place, or will take place, to avenge the murder of its people in Tripoli (northern Lebanon) and in southern Beirut".

But the caller did not say specifically whether the hitherto unknown organisation carried out today's explosion. The caller added that the organisation had previously warned that "it will attack leaders of the (leftist) Lebanese National Movement."

Investigators said the explosion sent the booby-trapped car high into the air, above the chancellery wall and into the embassy courtyard 30 meters (yards) away. According to unconfirmed reports, the car may have belonged to a Lebanese woman who worked at the embassy. The vehicle reportedly exploded as she was driving it into the embassy grounds.

Butrus Condemns Bombing

NC240920 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus has delegated the assistant director of protocol, George Qasuf, to visit the French Embassy and convey to the embassy charge d'affaires Lebanon's denunciation and condemnation of the car-bomb incident.

THREE EXPLOSIONS REPORTED IN BEIRUT 21 MAY

NC211844 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] The black criminal hand has returned to the peaceful civilian streets in the capital, Beirut. Security sources this evening reported the three explosions which occurred in various parts of Beirut this afternoon left many victims in addition to heavy material damage.

At 1645 [1445 GMT], an explosive device went off in a wooden hut near the statue of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir in 'Ayn al-Muraysah, injuring a citizen and causing some material damage. At 1700, another explosion occurred in a lathe shop in Al-'Uwza'i Street in the Al-Bastah locality, causing heavy material damage. Five minutes later, a large explosion occurred in the Abu Ghazalah building, located in the Corniche Al-Mazra'ah locality, near the Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir Mosque. The device was placed on the second floor of the building. The explosion left 3 people dead, caused various injuries to well over 10 people, and demolished part of the building.

This evening Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan condemned the criminal wave of explosions aimed against peaceful people. He held contacts with Ibrahim Qulaylat [leader of the independent Nasirite movement, Al-Murabitun] and expressed his denunciation of and regret over the incident. Al-Wazzan gave instructions to the civil defense bodies to rush to the scene of the explosion to save the injured, transfer them to the hospitals and to provide the necessary tools to prevent the collapse of the buildings.

10 Dead, 25 Wounded

NC220642 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 22 May 82

[Excerpt] Criminal hands yesterday committed new crimes through a series of explosions, causing more deaths, injuries and destruction. The three explosions which occurred in western Beirut killed about 10 persons and wounded 25 others.

Group Claims Responsibility

NC212222 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Four people were killed and 15 others were wounded in three explosions in several places in western Beirut today. A spokesman of the Front for the Liberation of Lebanon From Foreigners has claimed the organization's responsibility for the explosions. He threatened to maintain such attacks until the foreign forces take their hands off of Lebanon.

Sources of the Lebanese police have said that the first explosion was near the U.S. Embassy in Beirut while the second was in a building of a certain magazine belonging to the Nasirite movement in Beirut, causing severe damage to the building. The third explosion was in a commercial street in western Beirut.

TRIPOLI SHOOTOUT 23 MAY KILLS 1, WOUNDS 17

NC240710 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 24 May 82

[Excerpts] The spate of security incidents did not stop yesterday. One person was killed and 17 others were wounded -- all passers-by -- yesterday afternoon when three cars carrying persons armed with automatic weapons caused each other in Tripoli.

At 1700 [1500 GMT] yesterday, persons armed with automatic weapons were seen inside two Peugeots chasing the occupants in a Mercedes and firing at it. When the three vehicles arrived near the Victoria movie theater on Mar Ilyas Street, heavy gunfire was directed at the Mercedes, injuring a large number of passers-by and passengers of vehicles in the area. It is not known whether anyone of the occupants of the three vehicles was hit.

It has been reported that two persons were arrested in the area of the shooting after arousing suspicion. The circumstances and reasons for the car chase are still unknown.

VOP: ISRAELIS REINFORCING POSITIONS IN SOUTH

NC231224 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1115 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] In southern Lebanon, security sources have said the Israeli forces are building more fortified positions in Bint Jubaul, especially in 'Aynata township. These positions have been strengthened with additional tank and artillery sites. The sources have said the eastern hills of the township, which have become surveillance posts, have been strengthened with radar. The Israeli forces have also put barbed wire around the hill of Marun ar-Ra's and planted antipersonnel mines in the areas surrounding the hill.

Persons coming from the Al-Wazzani area report that the Israeli forces have imposed a 6-hour curfew on the town during which time Israeli vehicles were seen moving near the area and the Israeli forces brought in various kinds of artillery and took up positions in the area.

2 PERSONS KILLED, 2 ABDUCTED IN SOUTH 22 MAY

NC222140 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Two persons were killed by a landmine this afternoon in the outskirts of Majdal Silm, in southern Lebanon. In Ansariyah, Samir Jabir and Sami Yasmin have been abducted by gunmen. Their fate is still unknown.

COMMITTEE REACHES AGREEMENT ON SECURITY MEASURES

NC222038 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] At the meetings held in Damascus with the Higher Coordination Committee, it has been decided to begin, as of today, implementing the measures on which agreement has been reached and that the implementation will be completed within 1 week.

The most outstanding points the Damascus meeting agreed to achieve, as certain newspapers reported today, are: To close all the armed offices in all the national areas and to turn them into social and cultural offices; to prevent the carrying of arms outside the Palestinian camps except in urgent cases requiring confronting the Israeli enemy; to hand over all security tasks to the Arab Deterrent Forces and the internal security forces.

As for the implementation of these points, sources of the Higher Coordination Committee said that preparations began yesterday and implementation will begin, as of today, and will be completed within 1 week. The papers reporting these measures said they will apply to Beirut and other areas, including Sidon and Tripoli.

VOP: NATIONALIST MOVEMENT TO FORM SINGLE FRONT

NC220918 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] The Lebanese Nationalist Movement announced it has agreed in principle to unite all the parties and popular organizations of the movement into a single front. It has also affirmed its adherence to the temporary program of the movement issued in August 1975, to the political organizational charter issued by the Central Political Council in April 1981 and to the main guidelines of the charter of the Popular Forces Council, considering all them as forming the basis for the unification process.

The Lebanese Nationalist Movement spelled out the outlines of the political plan for this front. These include considering the Phalangist Party the main threat to Lebanon's unity, drawing attention to the schemes of this party, confronting the sectarian partitionist plan, not relying on the existing official authority and protecting the Palestinian revolution. The plan envisages dealing with the Lebanese crisis on the basis of the rule that there should be no solution at the expense of the Palestinian revolution and that the Palestinian revolution should not be left alone in any war launched against it.

The plan affirms Syria's national and pan-Arab role and calls for building the national Lebanese-Palestinian-Syrian alliance on clear and firm bases simultaneously preserving the independence of the national Lebanese decision and the common pan-Arab interest. All this will create the prerequisites for a firm and national confrontation of the Zionist enemy and his agents in the occupied border enclave.

The Lebanese Nationalist Movement also called for expediting efforts to form a national salvation front on clear-cut bases. This was contained in the final statement issued following the meeting of the Central Political Council of the Nationalist Movement yesterday.

SYRIAN DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES, MEETS FRANJIYAH

NC231258 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Syrian Defense Minister and Deputy Commander in Chief of the armed forces Gen Mustafa Talas arrived in Zgharta at 1330 [1130 GMT] today at the head of a military delegation, including deputy chief of staff for operations Maj Gen 'Ali Aslan, commander of the Syrian forces with the Arab Deterrent Forces Maj Gen Sa'id Bayraqdar and director of the Political Department Maj Hasan Turkmani. The delegation was welcomed by former President Sulayman Franjiyah, who was accompanied by his son Robert Franjiyah and Deputy Dr 'Abdallah ar-Rasi. A meeting is now in progress between former President Franjiyah and General Talas and his delegation.

Statements After Meeting

NC240734 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] After his meeting with Syrian Defense Minister Gen Mustafa Talas, [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah described the Israeli threats as a local invention, since Israel is not accustomed to announcing its intention to carry out an invasion 1 month or 5 months beforehand.

General Talas affirmed the ability to foil the U.S. plan aiming at causing disintegration in the area, beginning with Lebanon. He explained the strike at the Muslim Brotherhood aimed at foiling the U.S. plan.

U.S. ENVOY DRAPER'S MEETINGS IN BEIRUT REPORTED

NC212012 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Morris Draper, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state, left Beirut at 1500 today, 24 hours after the beginning of his visit to Lebanon, for Damascus within his current mission to some Middle East capitals.

Draper met separately today with President Ilyas Sarkis, Prime Minister Shafiz al-Wazzan and Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus. He discussed with them the situation in the south and Lebanese political affairs. He first met with President Sarkis. U.S. Ambassador Robert Dillon, who returned to Beirut after holding consultations with his government, and U.S. Charge d'Affaires Robert Barret attended part of the meeting. Following this meeting, Draper said: We had a very good general discussion. We deeply appreciate President Sarkis' advice and words of wisdom, which I shall convey to Washington.

The U.S. diplomat then went to the government palace where he met with Prime Minister al-Wazzan in the presence of Director General of Protocol and Public Relations 'Abd ar-Rahman ash-Shaykha. Following the meeting, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: [Begin recording] This is not the first meeting to be held with Mr Draper. He previously visited the area to acquaint himself with the conditions and to discuss these conditions, particularly the cease-fire among the disputants, especially on Lebanese soil. Today's discussions actually covered the general situation in the area, particularly the cease-fire. It was an occasion during which we discussed the various interpretations of the cease-fire as well as our own clear and frank interpretation. At any rate, I can say I was very frank in stating that, at this delicate stage we are experiencing in Lebanon, it is necessary that the whole world, the United Nations and the big states respond to our right. We seek our right — no more, no less. We also insisted the Palestinian question should be tackled in a more serious way. The right of the Palestinian people is also clear and obvious. Action must be expedited to uphold this right. I have nothing more to add to this.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] I discussed this information yesterday after we were informed by the UN emergency forces commander about a reduction in the number of the Israeli forces along the border. However, we all know Israel is capable of acting in a very short time, regardless of whether or not there are concentrations along the Lebanese border.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] We have not discussed these affairs. [end recording]

Draper then met with Minister Butrus and held discussions for the same purpose. Following the meeting, Butrus was asked about the nature of the U.S. proposals on the cease-fire in the south. He said: I believe the term "new U.S. proposals" is out of place and must be corrected. Let us say there are fruitful U.S. efforts aimed at preventing the violation of the cease-fire and at consolidating it to pave the way for progress on the issues pertaining to the south and the region.

On this occasion I would like to explain a few things: First, Lebanon is not a party to the cease-fire for a very simple reason. I say this is a primary reason added to other reasons. This reason is Lebanon was not a party in opening the gunfire. How then could it be a party to the cease-fire? Moreover, Lebanon welcomes the cease-fire on the basis that it spares the lives of some citizens and those living in Lebanon. It also averts destruction. It is my view that the cease-fire facilitates the implementation of UN Resolution 425 and the subsequent resolutions pertaining to southern Lebanon.

The minister added: The cease-fire is harmonious with the status quo existing between Lebanon and Israel. Lebanon adheres to this status; namely, the armistice agreement governs the situation. The United Nations, in all its bodies, have followed Lebanon's example in this regard. The UN stated and expressed a legal opinion and resolved that the armistice agreement between Lebanon and Israel is still valid. Foreign Minister Butrus added: The U.S. stand on the cease-fire, as was explained by a U.S. State Department spokesman a few days ago, is not an endeavor, in the opinion of the Americans, connected with the cease-fire, but it is, according to them, the understanding they reached with all the parties directly or indirectly concerned with the cease-fire. I will not comment on this for two reasons: The first is I was not in Lebanon at that time. I was recuperating in the United States and I did not become directly acquainted with what took place then. The second reason is this issue is connected with parties that are not Lebanese, as I have said, and what I understood at the time conforms to a certain extent with what the U.S. spokesman said. Butrus further said: If any party has any objection to this concept and definition of the cease-fire then it must declare its view. Lebanon has no business adopting a stand in this regard. Moreover, Lebanon considers in principle it is not right nor is it possible that it, its sons and land, should be held responsible for any action or measure taken by others.

Answering a question on the nature of Draper's mission, the foreign minister said: Draper's mission will include several Arab countries as well as Israel. I believe the topics he will discuss during his tour will be different in the various countries he will visit. In Lebanon, the question of the cease-fire and the Israeli threats dominated the major party of the discussions, which also dealt with the future of the UN resolutions, particularly Resolutions 425 and 501. The discussions also broached on all aspects of the Lebanese crisis in general, particularly those aspects having a bearing on the Middle East question or the current greater disagreement and tension in the world. Answering another question, Minister Butrus said: It is not one of the objects of Draper's visit to pave the way for a visit by Ambassador Philip Habib. Draper's visit has its own motives and good reasons. Philip Habib's possible visit to the area in the future depends on circumstances and their development and on the decision of the U.S. administration itself.

Draper said: We had a general discussion with the foreign minister. The United States is interested in consolidating stability in several areas.

The NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY reported today Draper's discussions dealt with the question of Lebanon and the south and of the region. There was a long review with President Sarkis of the various local, regional and international political issues in light of the diplomatic moves on the Arab and international levels aimed at consolidating the cease-fire in southern Lebanon. The reality of the linkage between the Lebanese crisis and the Middle East crisis and the possibility of finding a radical solution to the problem of Lebanon and its south, separate from the Middle East crisis, the essence of which is the Palestinian question, were also discussed at today's meetings. The development of the international stands on the security and political conditions in Lebanon was also discussed. The discussions also focused on the situation in the south and the seriousness of the U.S. interest in preventing the recurrence of Israeli attacks against the south and the need to consolidate the cease-fire, which Israel is continuously threatening there.

At a time when the various views are unanimous that Draper is basically paving the way for a visit by U.S. envoy Philip Habib, who is of Lebanese origin, there are reports discussing Draper himself and say his discussions are confined to the formulation of a unified interpretation of the cease-fire by the PLO and Israel. Washington announced the broad lines of its interpretation of the cease-fire a few days ago. It was natural the points raised with the U.S. diplomat included the consolidation of the cease-fire in the south, the implementation of the UN resolutions on southern Lebanon and the action to calm down the conditions at home to create the appropriate circumstances for the constitutional transition in the country.

GENERAL TALAS VISITS SYRIAN FORCES IN LEBANON

JN232015 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] At the instruction of President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the armed forces, Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief and defense minister, visited our Syrian Arab forces working within the Arab Deterrent Forces in fraternal Lebanon. He was accompanied by Maj Gen 'Ali Aslan, assistant chief of staff for operations and training and Maj Gen Hasan Turkmani, head of the political administration. The defense minister was received at Tripoli airport by the major general in command of Syrian forces assigned to the Arab Deterrent Forces.

Talas met with the valiant Syrian forces there and conveyed greetings from leader President Hafiz al-Asad, hailing their heroism and the wisdom of their commanders, who have succeeded in realizing security in fraternal Lebanon and sparing Arab blood there. Talas then addressed the fighters, saying:

You are here to implement the pan-Arab task assigned to you by our party, its secretary general, Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, and our people in steadfast Syria. You are here to serve your brothers in Arab Lebanon and safeguard the unity and territorial integrity of fraternal Lebanon and its people. You are confronting the imperialist and Zionist schemes and the plots of their agents from the isolationist phalangist militias.

The defense minister pointed out that recent events in Lebanon and the deterioration in law and order in Tripoli is a link in an imperialist-Zionist-reactionary plot aimed at wiping out Lebanese nationalist forces. At the same time, the racist Zionist entity is massing its gangs in south Lebanon in order to pounce on Lebanon following the failure of its designs to divide Lebanon into communal states. He made it clear to the fighters that the plots in the Arab region and behind the scenes to foment internecine fighting in fraternal Lebanon, the escalation of the mad war launched by the hangman of Iraq against the Iranian Islamic revolution and the Arabization of the treaty of surrender at Camp David have been masterminded by the nation's enemies in the White House, Tel Aviv and some Arab capitals. He added that our country and the countries of the Pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front will always lie in wait for all plots aimed at weakening the cause of the Arab nation and its right to its occupied territories and preventing the return of our Palestinian Arab people to their homeland and establishing their independent state.

In conclusion, Talas said we are strong through our party and its aims, through the steadfastness of our people and through the power and position of our armed forces. This strength, Talas said, will inevitably lead us to victory and liberation and to the realization of the security of Lebanon and the unity of its territory and people through the presence of our forces and the nationalist forces and elements headed by former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah.

SOVIET DELEGATION LEAVES; JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED

JN211441 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] The delegation of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace headed by Comrade Aleksandr Kuzmin, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party in the Soviet Republic of Belorussia, left Damascus for home today following a weeklong visit to Syria at the invitation of the National Council of Peace Partisans movement in Syria.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent before his departure, Comrade Kuzmin praised the friendship and cooperation between Syria and the USSR. He pledged the support of the USSR's people, party and government for the just Syrian struggle against all imperialist, Zionist and reactionary conspiracies.

Concluding his statement, Comrade Kuzmin wished the Syrian people more progress and success under struggler Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the republic. At the conclusion of the delegation's visit to Syria, the following joint statement was issued:

The two sides highly appreciate the results of the discussions and talks that were held at the highest level between Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the republic, and Comrade Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The two sides stressed the importance of the friendship and cooperation treaty between Syria and the USSR, which constitutes an extremely important step toward bolstering friendship and cooperation between the two friendly peoples and countries.

The Soviet delegation was briefed on the most important achievements and developments in Syria, as well as on Syria's efforts under the Ba'th Party and Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the party and president of the republic, to bolster and promote Arab steadfastness and mobilize Arab liberation forces against the mounting imperialist-Zionist onslaught and its aggressive plans. These imperialist-Zionist plans aim at besieging and renewing the conspiracies against the centers of Arab steadfastness so as to open the way for the Camp David policy and drag other Arab countries into accepting it.

The Syrian side explained the dimensions of the internal and external pressures and conspiracies against Syria because of its pan-Arab patriotic and liberation stands. The two sides expressed the conviction that the Iraqi-Iranian war is not in the interest of the neighboring Iraqi and Iranian peoples and their struggle against imperialism and Zionism, but is in the interest of imperialist-Zionist-reactionary plans. The two sides asserted their support for a just and peaceful settlement to this dispute without external interference.

The two sides stressed the importance of backing the pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and improving its effectiveness, and of strengthening cooperation between all factions of the Arab liberation movement against the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary conspiracies. The Soviet side expressed appreciation for Syria's role under Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the republic, within the framework of the activities of the front and in bolstering the struggle of the Arab liberation movement.

IRANIAN TRADE DELEGATION ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN232030 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] An Iranian trade delegation headed by Ghanimifard, assistant Iranian trade minister, arrived in Damascus today on a 5-day visit to Syria during which it will meet with the minister of economy and foreign trade and the minister of state for planning. The first session of talks will begin tomorrow at the conference hall of the Central Bank of Syria. The talks are aimed at strengthening and promoting trade between Syria and Iran.

KHADDAM RECEIVES U.S. ENVOY MORRIS DRAPER

JN221314 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Morris Draper, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state, this morning. Nasir Qaddur, assistant foreign minister; Sabah Qabbani, director of the American desk at the Foreign Ministry; and the U.S. ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. Their talks dealt with the current international situation.

KHADDAM RECEIVES QADDUMI, OTHER PLO OFFICIALS

JN211641 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] At 1200 today, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department; 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, official PLO spokesman; and Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, official in charge of the PLO Information Department. Talks during the meeting centered on the current Arab situation.

RED CRESCENT TO SEND FOOD, MEDICINE TO GOLAN

JN231001 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0845 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Damascus, 23 May (SANA) -- In implementation of the fourth Geneva convention, which provides for the delivery of food and medical supplies to citizens in occupied territories, on Thursday the Syrian Red Crescent will send a convoy carrying food, medical supplies and clothes to help our kinfolk in occupied Golan. The convoy will be supervised by a member of the International Red Cross.

A Syrian Red Crescent official has announced that the convoy will carry food supplies, including powdered milk, sugar, rice, some canned food and mineral water in addition to medical supplies and medicine that have been donated by the Syrian Red Crescent provincial branches.

The official said all these supplies will be transported on 12 Red Crescent trucks.

DAMASCUS COMMENTS ON STEADFASTNESS FRONT MEETING

JN231722 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 23 May 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] The foreign ministers of the pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front will meet in Algiers tomorrow as a result of leader President Hafiz al-Asad's important, successful and fruitful tour [to Libya and Algeria]. The foreign minister's discussions will specify means of confronting and foiling the imperialist and Zionist moves that aim at reconciliation with the Zionist enemy through reconciliation with the Egyptian regime.

The suspicious moves by agent pro-U.S. regimes in the region to Arabize Camp David and break the siege around its plans to liquidate the Palestine question and entrench U.S. domination in the region took the form of vicious onslaught when they were brought into the open, especially when the U.S. agents realized that the climate provided by Saddam's war against the Iranian revolution was suitable for meeting with Mubarak's regime and indulging in the conspiracy and its schemes.

U.S. agents like King Husayn in Amman, the hangman Saddam in Baghdad, Siad Barre in Somalia, Numayri in Khartoum and Qabus in Muscat have imagined that the U.S. umbrella, which protects them, will make their mission a foregone conclusion in the region. They thought all they had to do was exploit the Arab situation, which suffers from weakness and illusion as a result of these regimes' terrorist conspiracies, and use Arab solidarity to serve the conspiracy and its aims.

This explains the call to Arabize Saddam's war, Mubarak's quick dispatch of arms to the hangman of Baghdad and the Husayn regime's evasion of its responsibility in confronting the Zionist enemy by joining Saddam's war, thus choosing the easy way into the Camp David conspiracy and its new links through the treasonous policy of Saddam. The aims of all agents are the same, and their conspiracy plans are alike.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger exposed the dimensions of the agents' alliance and its assigned directives by the following four points: first, confronting Syria through supplying the Jordanian regime with sophisticated weapons; second, serving U.S. interests in the region; third, guaranteeing the security of Israel, which enjoys top priority in U.S. policy; and fourth, Arabizing Saddam's war under the guise of protecting Gulf security. Weinberger admitted that Saddam's defeat worries the United States, explaining that such defeat harms U.S. interests.

This explains the importance of tomorrow's meeting in Algiers of the foriegn ministers of the pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and the tasks of Arab revolutionary forces and their masses, headed by Syria at this stage. The most important of these tasks is serious and concentrated action to foil the conspiracy, which aims at Arabizing Camp David, to entrench the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, enabling steadfast Arab forces to foil and destroy the conspiracy and its tools, and to provide the means of continuing the struggle to liberate the land and regain political, military and economic rights.

The pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front is qualified and capable of achieving this urgent aim because of its strategic position, its active forces and its direct role in the current confrontation. These active forces are headed by the Arab masses throughout the great homeland and their unlimited readiness to play their struggle role in a suitable way and at a suitable time to foil the conspiracy and strike at its tools.

The qualitative strength of the masses' stand worries the agents and their masters, because it emphasizes that the march of history will never go backward and that the future in the region will be for the pan-Arab steadfast forces and their masses. The decision and crucial say lies with the masses, who will specify their march to secure the national and pan-Arab aims of the Arab nation and reinforce pan-Arab existence against the factors that hamper the development of the Arab nation, the liberation of its land, the regaining of its rights and the future of its masses in a united socialist society.

AL-BA'TH SCORES JORDANIAN OVERTURES TO EGYPT

JN211029 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0625 GMT 21 May 82

[Press review]

[Text] AL-BA'TH says: While the king of Jordan announces through his advisers that it is necessary to prepare a chapter for an Arab return to the capitulatory regime in Egypt, Western and Israeli mass media welcome and provide justifications for this proposal.

The justifications made by the Jordanian regime's mass media are the same as those made by the media linked to the imperialist West and Zionism. The division of Arabs into moderates and radicals is an imperialist heresy initiated by the strategic planners in the Pentagon in the hope of achieving their goal of finding other Arabs to follow As-Sadat in relinquishing Arab territory and destiny.

BEGIN CRITICIZES WEINBERGER ARMS AID STATEMENT

TA231133 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1110 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] The Cabinet has rejected the U.S. secretary of defense's statement that the United States must supply sophisticated weapons to Jordan and has also expressed concern over the hostilities in the Falkland Islands. At the end of the Cabinet session, Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor issued an announcement to journalists:

[Begin Meridor recording] The Israeli Cabinet expresses its deep concern over the hostilities in the sea, air and land battles over the Falkland Islands, the Malvinas, and the tragic casualties in their wake. Israel calls on the parties to observe a cease-fire, to begin negotiations and to make an effort to solve this bloody dispute, which endangers world peace, through peaceful means.

At the Cabinet session, the prime minister announced: U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger issued an announcement saying the United States must supply sophisticated and modern weapons to Jordan because -- as he phrased it -- Jordan is squeezed between Syria and Iran. I am sorry to say this is a misleading announcement: Jordan is not at all pressured. Iran is not a neighbor of Jordan. These two countries are separated by the vast territory of Iraq and a large desert. Jordan made its own decision to join Iraq in its aggressive war against Iran. The real cause motivating Jordan to request modern and sophisticated weapons from the United States is neither Syria nor Iran, but Israel. It is true that lip service has again been paid to assuring Israel's advantage. However, how can this advantage be maintained when only 20 miles separate Jordan -- which will be equipped, in addition to modern Soviet weapons, also with the speediest and most sophisticated U.S. weapons -- and the Jewish population centers. The supply of such weapons to Israel's enemies -- Jordan and Iraq -- coupled with lip service to Israel's security poses a direct and immediate danger to the Jewish state and to peace. [end recording]

Appeals to Reagan

TA240832 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 May 82

[Report by David Essing -- recorded]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin has sharply criticized U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger's statement that Jordan is squeezed between Syria and Iran. Jordan had joined forces with Iraq, an implacable enemy of Israel, and Jordan of its own accord joined in the war against Iran. Jordan and Iraq had formed a unified command and were in fact one country. Prime minister went on to say the Yom Kippur war had showed that all the Arab countries including Jordan united when it came to attacking Israel.

[Begin] Should at any time the Government of the United States decide to provide Jordan-Iraq, the enemies of Israel, with sophisticated weapons it will endanger the very security of the State of Israel. Why? Because the centers of our population are no more than 20 miles from the forward bases in Jordan, and Jerusalem is even closer. If those weapons are offensive, let me say, F-16 and F-15, then they will be able to reach even Tel Aviv in a few minutes.

[Essing] The prime minister said that mobile Hawk missiles could provide Jordan with an air defense system allowing it to launch an air strike against Israel. Menahem Begin then made this appeal to President Ronald Reagan in the White House.

[Begin] Our dear friend, I appeal to him, the President of the United States, Mr Ronald Reagan should not do so.

I believe him when he writes to me or told me as he did that the United States is committed forever to Israel's security. But as he means it he must not allow his administration to send sophisticated weapons to an enemy, now an emplacable enemy, allied to Iraq.

CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED TO OPPOSE U.S. ARMS TO JORDAN

TA231557 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Israel is launching an information campaign against the United States' sale of sophisticated arms -- including improved Hawk missiles -- to Jordan. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that political sources assume the U.S. administration has already completed preparations for bringing the proposed sale to Congress for approval.

As part of this campaign Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon will meet with his U.S. counterpart and Ambassador Moshe Arens will make statements to the press. Jewish organizations have promised the prime minister they will work against the U.S. administration's intentions.

Begin's speech in the Cabinet meeting should also be viewed in this spirit. In his speech he criticized U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger, saying the weapons for Jordan are intended for use against Israel and the promise to maintain Israel's supremacy is nothing but lip service.

MINISTER SHARON FEARS PRO-U.S. ARAB COALITION

TA230541 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has expressed the fear that Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Egypt are consolidating a pro-U.S. coalition that is very dangerous to Israel and which might bring Soviet intervention in the Middle East. Speaking to Jewish activists in Washington, Sharon called on U.S. Jews to struggle to foil the proposed sale of mobile Hawk missiles to Jordan. Saying that these missiles would endanger the skies of Jerusalem and half the military airfields in Israel, Sharon emphasized that over the last decade the Arabs had purchased weapons from several sources to the tune of $75 billion, whereas Israel's arms purchases amounted to less than $13 billion.

Nevertheless, the defense minister reiterated his position that, for its part, Israel would stop the arms race and would only buy spare parts for old equipment.

Our correspondent in Washington Shalom Qital reports Sharon conferred with Dr Kissinger in Washington last night and, after making his speech, flew to New York. In the middle of this week he will return to Washington to confer with the secretaries of state and defense, and he may also meet with President Reagan.

SHARON WILL NOT RAISE MEMORANDUM IN U.S. TALKS

TA240841 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has called for a struggle against the sale of sophisticated weapons to Jordan at a meeting with 500 Jewish students in New York. He also issued an appeal to Jewish students to come and live in Israel, saying they would be able to express all their political views there.

A few students waved signs from the Peace Now movement and Sharon declared: Why are you jumping? Three years ago we signed a peace treaty.

Ask the Labor Alignment why it didn't sign a treaty in 30 years. Another student from a Labor backed youth movement said it is impossible to immigrate to Israel because it is similar to South Africa, with autonomy the same as apartheid. Sharon rejected the charge, replying that it showed a deep inferiority complex.

Turning to his talks tomorrow with American leaders, Sharon said he would not bring up the suspended memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation. That's up to the Americans Sharon concluded.

U.S. 'CARROT, STICK METHODS' USED ON PERSONAL LEVEL

TA231526 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 23 May 82 p 3

[Commentary by Alex Fishman: "A Fitting Compensation for the Defense Minister"]

[Excerpts] One of the complicated problems facing U.S. State Department officials in recent months was how to prevent a large-scale flare-up on the Lebanese front. In discussions on this issue, high-level State Department circles reached the conclusion that one of the keys to an easing of tensions is the political situation in Israel (still an undercurrent), namely, the war of succession in the Herut movement.

The Americans grasped that Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon needed a dramatic achievement in order to become the leader of the band. Such an achievement would legitimize him as Begin's successor and would enable him to surmount the hurdle created by Menahem Begin's potential successors -- Ministers David Levi, Yitzhaq Shamir and Yoram Aridor. A military success in Lebanon might have paved Sharon's path to succession. Such a conclusion led to the opening of a new front in an effort to restore calm to the region. The carrot and stick method used so far by the United States with the Israelis on the national level began to be used also on the personal level. Against this background it can be understood how a private visit by the defense minister to the United States, in the framework of the United Jewish Appeal, becomes a visit with a political, strategic content.

The Americans jumped on Sharon's visit as if it was a great catch. In the view of State Department officials this visit will make it possible to kill at least two birds with one stone. One bird is the renewal of the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation and the other is the giving of suitable compensation to the defense minister for his restraint in the present and future on the matter of Lebanon. The Americans will make every effort to make Sharon's U.S. trip a success and the renewal of the memorandum his personal achievement. This achievement, the echoes of which will ring loud and clear in Israel, will enable Sharon to strengthen his position among his partners in the Likud coalition and will reduce his motivation for achievements in other areas -- read Lebanon.

Indeed the revival of the memorandum of understanding is meant to create calm in Israel. What this means is that it does not pay to disrupt relations with the United States when the possibility of broad strategic cooperation with the United States is on the agenda. And the renewal of the memorandum of understanding also makes the picking of another fruit possible -- Ari'el Sharon. However, one must not forget that the renewal of the memorandum of understanding also serves distinct U.S. interests. For some reason the practical aspect -- the effort to put flesh on the bones of regional strategic deployment -- is the subject of cynical criticism in Israel.

POLL SHOWS DECLINE IN BEGIN, SHARON POPULARITY

TA211056 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 May 82 p 3

[PORI Poll]

[Text] The proportion of the population satisfied with the prime minister and the defense minister has declined by about 7 percent. Less than half of the population, 43.6 percent, is currently satisfied with Menahem Begin as prime minister. These are the main findings of a nationwide public opinion poll conducted by the PORI Institute and commissioned by HA'ARETZ.

The proportion of those satisfied with Begin declinde from 57 percent in March to 50.4 percent at present, but this is still higher than the proportion throughout 1980, which stood at 25 percent. However, Begin's popularity is much lower than it was during his first months in power in 1977, when over 75 percent of the public was satisfied with him.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's popularity has increased slightly, from 51.5 percent in March to 52.5 percent at present. Shamir is currently more popular than either the prime minister or the defense minister.

The popularity of Finance Minister Yoram Aridor has also increased slightly, from 41.3 percent to 42.2 percent. The director of the PORI Institute, Refa'el Gil, points out the poll was conducted before the 10.7 percent rise in the Consumer Price Index for April was published.

Education and Culture Minister Zvulun Hammer continues to lead the popularity poll, preceding any other senior Likud ministers. He is more popular than his colleague in the NRP, Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg. Some 72.3 percent (compared with 75.5 percent in March) are pleased with Hammer as education minister while only 27.8 percent (compared with 26.2 percent in March) are satisfied with Dr Burg as interior, police and religious affairs minister.

The poll involved a representative sample of 1,200 men and women who were interviewed individually in their homes throughout the country.

MINISTER SHAMIR SAYS CEASE-FIRE DEPENDS ON PLO

TA241044 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said Israel is interested in the continuation of quiet on the northern border but this depends on the terrorists' behavior. If they continue to act from other areas or from other borders Israel will not sit idly by. Minister Shamir was speaking to U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Morris Draper at a meeting they held this morning in Jerusalem.

Draper has visited several capitals in the region in an effort to stabilize the cease-fire. The U.S. envoy said Israel's position was well understood in the Arab countries he visited and there was willingness to maintain the cease-fire on the Lebanese border. The United States too believes the cease-fire should be applied not only to the Lebanese border but also outside of Lebanon and on all the borders with Israel. The two men also discussed the Iran-Iraq war and other regional problems.

EYTAN SAYS 'TERRORIST' POLICY UNCHANGED

TA231152 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1120 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan has said he is not sure that calm indeed prevails in the north. According to him, the deployment of IDF troops in the north was designed to cope with various situations and that is what the IDF will continue to do in the future.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal spoke with General Eytan:

[Begin recording] [Tal] Did a change occur recently in the Syrian deployment in the north, either in the Golan Heights or in Lebanon? Were there any Syrian movements in these areas?

[Eytan] No, there were no movements which could be labeled as significant.

[Question] Has the situation in the north calmed down?

[Answer] I am not sure. Only 3 days ago, mines were again discovered on the northern border. I do not think any change has occurred in the terrorists' policy; I am not sure about it.

[Question] What are the current prospects of a flare-up in the north for whatever reasons?

[Answer] I do not want to comment on this.

[Question] Officers in the reserves and former education officers have recently voiced their opinion about so-called incidents of extraordinary behavior in the territories and the military advocate general is investigating the matter. What is your opinion about these utterances and about the need for such probes? Has the incidence of extraordinary behavior increased?

[Answer] I heard that former education officers sent me a letter. I have not seen such a letter and I have not heard anything about it. Therefore, I cannot comment. Any extraordinary incident, any that looks or sounds extraordinary, is checked with maximum impartiality. I do not think that today the army or the soldiers are behaving in a deplorable way or beyond what is called for. We are making supreme efforts to ensure that incidents which may appear or be regarded as extraordinary do not take place. Every incident is checked on its own merit.

[Question] Let me go back to the question I asked you before regarding the terrorists in the north. Is it really necessary to maintain large forces there to maintain the calm, as you said, in order to deter?

[Answer] The deployment of forces must be such that it can cope with various situations. That is what we did and that is what we will continue to do in the future. [end recording]

The chief of staff added the IDF is currently assessing the maneuvers conducted by the Syrians and that conclusions would be reached in the next few days. [end recording]

SHAMIR ON EGYPT, TERRORISM, AFRICAN TIES

TA211916 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1550 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Tel Aviv, 21 May -- Notwithstanding the peace agreement and relations between Israeli and Egypt, the peaceful relations between the two countries can be thwarted by Egypt's ties with the terrorist organizations, said Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir today in a lecture at Bet' Hapraqlit in Tel Aviv. The goal of these organizations is to prevent the peace between us and any Arab state and they are doing so daily.

Shamir also said that most of Israel's wars in the past broke out following terrorist actions. "This is the danger for us and we will warn our partners in peace that there is one factor -- the terrorist organizations -- that constitutes a danger to our existence. This problem must be solved and whoever says that only a political solution is possible must remember that others have said so in the past and they finished by giving in to the terrorist organizations. There is also no room for compromise since the very purpose of their existence is our destruction and one must not forget this."

Shamir added that sooner or later we will have to confront this problem since it constitutes a political danger and is a potential threat to the prospects of peace between us and the Arab states. Our achievement of peace with the Arab states is necessary for existence — for our existence and that of the entire world.

Shamir went on to mention our political isolation in the face of efforts by Arab states to induce countries to sever their ties with us and stop Third World countries from renewing theirs. "We grapple with these problems daily, especially in the African countries. For understood reasons we cannot tell the public about everything we are doing there. However, what has already been said has exposed African countries to difficult pressures. The African countries know they will benefit from renewing their ties with us, but in no few states there prevails fear of pressures and financial losses and even of attempts to assassinate their leaders."

Shamir revealed that when discreetly he first met with the foreign ministers of African countries at the UN General Assembly in New York, they enthusiastically told him about their yearning to renew ties with Israel. "This is important for us because it is needed; this is politically beneficial in helping to break the fetters of isolation; and this also has economic benefits. But first of all the renewed ties will benefit the African states. We thought a number of states would announce together the renewal of ties. However, until the first country was found that agreed to declare its renewal of ties it was difficult, but I am convinced it will not be the last country."

According to Shamir, what the Arab states are doing to the African countries is an act of humiliation, meddling in their affairs, and a violation of their sovereignty and honor. "A representative of one of the African countries visited me and I asked him how Saudi Arabia allows itself to intervene in his country's affairs while ignoring Egypt's having signed a peace treaty with us. What is interesting is that Saudi Arabia allows itself this intervention despite the grave worries now troubling it. The Saudis are very concerned by Iraq's defeats in the war with Iran, defeats that are a real potential danger to them. They are trembling with fear in Saudi Arabia and in the Persian Gulf, yet their hatred of Israel is so great that they act against the Africans' tendencies to resume their ties with us. We will encourage the Africans to work for that end and for their good as well as for our good," said Shamir.

Earlier Shamir attacked what he termed the internal struggle among the parties, in and outside the Knesset, at a time when there is no national consensus and when cooperation between the coalition and the opposition had become a dirty word. He recalled that in the British Parliament almost unanimous agreement was achieved regarding the war over the Falkland Islands.

On the differences of opinion of our border with Egypt near Tabah, Shamir said that at first the parties tried to resolve these in negotiations. However, if negotiations fail to settle the conflict recourse will have to be made to a compromise [peshara], involving an agreed upon group of mediators who will propose a solution which the parties are free to accept or reject. He added that "we are not seeking any favor from the Egyptians and we do not want even a centimeter of Egyptian territory. We are only starting that the territory in question, near Tabah, belongs to Israel. It is true the Egyptians think otherwise and they have turned the matter into one of principle. However, we believe this too will be resolved, because we will not have recourse to international arbitration connected with the court in the Hague. We do not have faith in the objectivity of UN institutions," concluded the foreign minister.

TZIPORI FIRES COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY DIRECTOR

TA240542 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] In a surprise move the communications minister has fired the director of his ministry, Gid'on Lev, our correspondent Gadi Sukenik has learned. Communications Minister Mordekhay Tzipori is now abroad, so it is not possible to get his reaction.

The fired director declined to comment. Gid'on Lev was supposed to leave his post in order to become the director of the telephone company when it is established. However, only the company's board of directors can nullify the appointment.

BEGIN OFFERS TELEM COALITION PARTNERSHIP

TA211418 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] The prime minister again asked Telem to join the Likud as a faction or take part in the coalition and it has been decided that negotiations will resume next week. Mr Begin and Ministers Ehrlich and Shostak met at noon with Telem officials. Ehrlich said later that ideology and principles were discussed but not portfolios.

EHRLICH COMMENTS ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH TELEM

TA232114 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2054 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 23 May -- Deputy Prime Minister and Agriculture Minister Mr Simha Ehrlich said this morning the negotiations toward incorporating Telem into the government should be completed in a few days "because things cannot go on the way they are."

Mr Ehrlich was speaking to an ITIM correspondent at Ben-Gurion Airport prior to his departure for Britain at the invitation of British Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Peter Walker.

"I have already said many times that under the current circumstances early elections must be held because it is inconceivable that 61 Knesset members should be tied down and unable to move for fear they might be absent during votes of no confidence," Mr Ehrlich said. "Therefore," he added, "if the negotiations with Telem succeed, at least we will not be a minority government. So far the negotiations have centered around political matters and matters of principle and one can safely assume that everything can be wound up within a couple of days. We will have the Pentecost holiday [28 May] in the middle of my visit to Britain so at least I can rest assured there will not be a vote of no confidence then."

This is the first time an Israeli agriculture minister has been invited by his British counterpart to make an official visit. Their talks will center on Israel's request that Britain help it forestall damage to Israeli interests upon Spain's joining the EEC, which is expected to take place by 1984.

Mr Ehrlich has visited most of the agriculture ministers of EEC countries and discussed this issue, which is so important for Israel's agricultural exports.

Still another subject that will be broached in the conversation with Mr Walker will be a British proposal on agricultural training cooperation. Mr Ehrlich is due back in Israel next Sunday.

LEVI WANTS ELECTIONS; PERES ON ALIGNMENT ROLE

TA220849 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi has said the situation in the country requires early elections. The majority of Likud members support this, but not most of the Knesset members. That is basically because the Alignment -- in Levi's opinion -- wants to return to power but not by way of elections.

Levi noted that as a result of political changes that occurred last week, new forces creating a new situation have formed in the Knesset.

Thus, the Cabinet can function, but not the Knesset. In his opinion, Knesset deliberations will not be substantive and the handling of state affairs will become a game between the opposition and the coalition. The deputy prime minister was speaking in an interview.

Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres has said in an interview that at present there is no chance the Knesset would pass the religious legislation the prime minister had promised Agudat Yisra'el he would see passed. He emphasized that if the Alignment acts properly and its members participate in meetings of the Knesset plenum and committees it will emerge as a main power with influence in all fields.

TEHIYA REJECTS OFFER TO JOIN LIKUD COALITION

TA240615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] The Tehiya movement has rejected the government's suggestion that it join the coalition. Our correspondent for party affairs Amnon Nadav reports that following lengthy discussions the movement's secretariat last night announced that it would not join a coalition based on a continuation of the policy of withdrawal and on implementation of autonomy in accordance with the Camp David accords. In the future also every issue will be considered on the basis of its merits, so the statement said, according to the vital interests of Eretz Yisra'el and the Israeli nation ['Am Yisra'el]. Under the present circumstances Tehiya continues to prefer early elections and will support any such initiative in the Knesset.

LABOR PARTY CONCERNED OVER TERRITORIES POLICY

TA192023 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1950 GMT 19 May 82

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv, 19 May -- This evening the Labor Party's Political Committee approved Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres' proposal which expresses a great deal of concern about the deterioration in the occupied territories and the Likud's policy which is used to undermine the stability and destroy the texture of normal relations between the Israeli authorities and the inhabitants of the territories. The decision further states that the Likud's policy strengthens the PLO and ruins the coexistence achieved in the framework of the open bridges policy.

Following a debate on MK Gad Ya'aqobi's proposal to gradually decrease Israel's civilian activity in those areas in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip that are densely populated with Arabs the Political Committee decided to set up a committee which will prepare detailed recommendations for an Alignment alternative policy in the Alignment's platform. The recommendations will be submitted to the committee's plenum for approval.

MAPAM OPPOSES INCLUSION OF NEW ALIGNMENT MEMBERS

TA231753 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] The MAPAM faction of the Alignment tomorrow will boycott a meeting of the Alignment's Knesset members if the meeting is attended by the two Knesset members -- Amnon Linn and Yitzhaq Peretz -- who moved over from the Likud. The MAPAM center has called for an urgent meeting of the Alignment leadership to discuss the matter of the two Knesset members' incorporation into the Alignment without the agreement of MAPAM and the Labor Party. According to MAPAM, the Labor Party has taken upon itself the heavy responsibility for the dissolution of the partnership between the two parties.

BEGIN URGES REASSESSMENT OF TIES WITH GREECE

TA231602 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] At the Cabinet meeting today Prime Minister Begin asked that relations with Greece be reassessed because of Athens' close ties with the PLO. Political sources said after the meeting that Israel should not relinquish ties with any country, even if it maintains close ties with the PLO.

ROMANIAN ENVOY CALLS FOR DEEPENING RELATIONS

TA230630 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2205 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Qiryat Mal'akhi, 22 May -- The reshuffle of the Romanian Government has no special significance and it involved internal personnel changes and retirements due to old age. The Romanian ambassador to Israel, Constantin Vasiliu, made this statement this evening in the opening ceremony of the celebrations to mark 100 years of aliyah from Romania.

The Romanian ambassador called for deepening the friendship between the two countries and the two peoples amid mutual respect as well as expanding cooperation in cultural and commercial fields. The ambassador also called for embracing Romania's position regarding international nuclear disarmament and about the solution of all border disputes or disputes between countries through negotiations.

WEEK OF EVENTS FOR ROMANIAN IMMIGRANTS OPENS

TA221858 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1840 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Qiryat Mal'akhi, 22 May -- In the presence of Romania's ambassador to Israel, Constantin Vasiliu, a week of events for Romanian immigrants in Israel opened to celebrate 100 years of settlement. In the course of the week the Romanian Embassy will present exhibitions and will set up a stand here to sell discount tour packages to Romania. Also in Qiryat Mal'akhi the representative Romanian singing group, (Dachia), and an orchestra conducted by (Yonel Bar) will appear.

COSTA RICAN EMBASSY OPENS IN JERUSALEM 23 MAY

TA231256 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Costa Rica this afternoon became the first country to move its embassy from Tel Aviv back to Jerusalem. Costa Rica, along with 12 other countries, removed their embassies from the capital in compliance with a UN Security Council resolution passed after the August 1980 Knesset law declaring Jerusalem the eternal capital of Israel. At the ceremony was reporter Jerry Cheslow:

[Begin recording] [Cheslow] It was an extremely low-key ceremony, without fanfare, with no top Israeli officials and only orange and grapefruit drinks as refreshment. Neither the Israeli officials nor the Costa Rican charge d'affaires would talk to the microphone because of the sensitivity of the issue. Charge d'Affaires Fernando Guardia raised the Costa Rican flag over the building at No 3 Bustanay Street, a plaque which said Republic of Costa Rica Embassy was uncovered and the 20 people present applauded. Costa Rican Agricultural Attache Carlos Delgado said that it was an expression of the deep friendship between the two countries.

[Delgado] Our president, Mr Monge, has never tried to hide the fact that he has a special feeling for Israel and he announced, during his campaign, that he wanted to move the embassy back to Jerusalem. There is a very deep friendship between our two nations. I am very happy to see today we are able to put our little share of it.

[Cheslow] The ties, though -- are they basically agricultural, are they basically trade?

[Delgado] Israel today has a major role in helping us to develop our agriculture technically and we also bring a lot of people from Costa Rica to study here and to take courses in Shefayim. So, interchange has to do a lot with Israel's preparing us technically.

[Cheslow] The move follows a telegram from Costa Rican Foreign Minister Jimenez to the secretary general of the United Nations rejecting Security Council Resolution 478 which calls for the removal of all embassies from Jerusalem. Jimenez said that this was against the UN Charter and that every country had the right to decide where its capital would be located. He also stressed that the embassy would be in west Jerusalem, which is undisputed Israeli territory and expressed the hope that relations between his country and the Arab states would not be damaged by the step. [end recording]

YEDI'OT AHARONOT ON RELATIONS WITH ZAIRE

TA231405 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 23 May 82 pp 1, 7

[Report from Kinshasa by Edwin Eytan]

[Text] Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche, who is visiting Zaire, is about to make a secret visit to another African country that, it is hoped, will follow the path of President Mobutu and renew diplomatic ties with Israel. Kimche is going to leave Kinshasa this evening and will almost certainly return to Israel Tuesday evening. The Foreign Ministry director general's trip is part of an Israeli diplomatic campaign aimed at bringing about the renewal of ties with as many African countries as possible.

As part of this campaign further secret visits by Israeli figures are to be expected in various countries in the coming days.

President Mobutu met four times with David Kimche over the weekend and spoke very warmly of Israel. Mobutu handed him an official invitation for Prime Minister Menahem Begin to make a state visit to Zaire. It appears the visit will take place toward the end of the summer or at the beginning of this fall. Mobutu will make a reciprocal visit to Israel before the year is out. These visits will be preceded by reciprocal visits of the two countries' foreign ministers.

Meanwhile, it has been learned that Israel asked for the Zairian Government's agreement to the appointment of veteran Israeli diplomat Mikha'el Mikha'eli as Israel's ambassador in Kinshasa. It is believed that he will take office in the coming weeks. President Mobutu has not yet decided who to appoint as ambassador to Israel.

Both Zairians and Israelis are displaying a desire to move quickly on everything connected with the establishment of relations. The arrival of the two countries' ambassadors to take up their posts will be coordinated so as to take place simultaneously.

During the 2 days of his visit in Kinshasa Kimche was very busy. Apart from his four meetings with the president, he held talks with the deputy defense minister -- the defense minister is Mobutu himself -- and with the foreign minister, the minister for economic cooperation, the treasury minister and the minister of finance.

Kimche brought a personal letter from President Navon to President Mobutu and a verbal message from Prime Minister Menahem Begin. He also gave the Zairian president a personal letter from Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, who met with Mobutu last November.

The Israeli delegation in Kinshasa stressed that in all Kimche's meetings with Mobutu the Zairian president reiterated his satisfaction and profound pride at being the first African leader to renew diplomatic ties with Israel.

The Zairian president told Kimche over and over: "They (the Arab states) cannot dictate foreign policy to Zaire."

Zairian circles stressed that Mobutu "has no compunctions" about the step he took. His sole reaction to the steps by the Arab states is great anger. He is also angry at the African states that succumbed to the Arabs' pressures and postponed [dahu] the renewal of ties with Israel.

An Israeli in Kimche's party said: "We discovered that Mobutu is in a bellicose mood. His hostile reactions to the Arabs are beyond what we expected. He is a proud leader who will not tolerate efforts to force things upon him."

'MODERATE' POLITICAL GROUP FORMS IN WEST BANK

TA240552 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] Activity to form political organizations has begun recently in Judaea and Samaria. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari has learned that a group of moderate figures are seeking to establish a party. The military government regards their organization positively and has even allowed them to publish a newspaper called (AT-TAQADDUM). The figures, from different towns in the territories, have said they are willing to join the autonomy talks.

NEW SETTLEMENT TO BE ESTABLISHED IN GAZA

TA231758 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] A new settlement, Ele Sinay, is to be established soon in the northern part of the Gaza Strip on the coast near the Erez roadblock. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports most of the members of the nucleus, about 25 families, were among the Yamit evacuees and they are still living in absorption centers. The new settlement will be mainly employed in tourism.

JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM USSR ALMOST STOPPED

TA240859 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] The head of the Jewish Agency's immigration section says emigration from the Soviet Union has been almost completely stopped. Speaking at a seminar for Russian immigrants, Rafa'el Kotlowitz said that last year 1,800 Jews emigrated to Israel from the Soviet Union and that this year not even a thousand have come. Kotlowitz proposed an end to the activities of the HIAS organization which helps place Russian Jewish emigrants in the United States.

BRIEFS

SECURITY EXPENDITURES RISE -- Expenditures for security services of the national government and the local authorities, at fixed prices, rose in 1981 by 11 percent, following a similar rise in 1980. The expenditures amount to 27 percent of the GNP. [Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 21 May 82 p 16 TA]

LAVI PROJECT CHIEF -- Mikha'el Na'aman, deputy director-general of Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI], was yesterday appointed to head the Lavi jet fighter project. Na'aman headed the IAI's electronics division. He will be replaced by Naftali Rosen, who marked ships and ship-to-ship missiles. An IAI press release said the company's marketing divisions will be united under Deputy Director-General Moshe Qeret. [Jerusalem POST in English 18 May 82 p 2 TA]

OAU MINISUMMIT ON CHAD OPENS IN KINSHASA 21 MAY

Delegations' Arrivals

AB211225 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1045 GMT 21 May 82

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, 21 May (AZAP) -- Daniel arap Moi, president of the Republic of Kenya and current chairman of the OAU, arrived in Kinshasa at 0915 this morning to participate in the OAU minisummit on Chad, which opens later today. He was welcomed at Ndjili International Airport by Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, founding chairman of the MPR and president of the republic, and by OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo, who arrived in the Zairian capital on Thursday, and by other officials.

President arap Moi is leading a 60-man delegation including R.J. Ouko, minister of foreign affairs; G.G. Kariuki, minister of lands, settlement and physical planning; and K.N. Biwott, minister of regional development, science and technology.

The plane carrying Senegalese Foreign Minister Moustapha Niasse landed at Ndjili at 1012. He was welcomed by Citizen Yoka Mangono, commissioner of state for foreign affairs. Mr Niasse is leading his country's delegation to the Kinshasa conference. He is accompanied by Armed Forces Minister Daouda Sow.

Nigerian Foreign Minister Ishaya Audu, who has been in Kinshasa since Thursday, is leading his country's delegation.

Chadian Delegate

AB211642 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1630 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Kinshasa, 21 May (AZAP) — The Chadian delegation that will take part in the Kinshasa meeting on the Chadian issue arrived in Kinshasa on Friday afternoon. It is led by Naimbaye Lossimian, minister for agriculture and rural development. It was welcomed upon arrival at Ndjili International Airport by Citizen Pendje Demodftdo, secretary of state for foreign affairs.

Mobutu Address

AB211448 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 21 May 82

[Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko address to the opening session of the OAU minisummit on Chad in Kinshasa on 21 May -- recorded]

[Text] Mr Current Chairman of the OAU, Mr Secretary General of the OAU, ministers representing the heads of state, citizens, state commissioners, ambassadors and heads of diplomatic missions, ladies and gentlemen, fellow countrymen and women: In the name of the Zairian people assembled within the MPR, and on my own behalf, I find it an agreeable duty to extend happy welcome to Zairian soil to all participants of this minisummit on Chad.

But before that, I would like to seek your indulgence concerning the eventual insufficiency you might observe here and there in the welcome accorded you. Our greatest worry is to do our best so that each one of you is perfectly at ease during your brief stay in our country.

Mr Chairman, Mr Secretary General of the OAU, ministers and state commissioners and distinguished delegates: I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the current chairman of the OAU for his unending efforts to find an appropriate solution to the Chadian problem, especially since the establishment of the pan-African peacekeeping force in Chad -- made up from three member countries of the OAU.

I have made it a point to thank them for their enormous human and material sacrifices to help the brotherly Chadian people to restore peace -- this peace for which we have all been searching. My thanks also go to the OAU observer group and to all those countries who in one way or another have supported the pan-African peacekeeping force.

In spite of certain misunderstandings caused more by the difficult situation in Chad than by unwillingness, I am hopeful that the Chadian authorities will make an appreciable contribution to finding a realistic solution to the crisis in their country. I thank them in advance. We cannot say more: The solution to the Chadian crisis must come from the Chadian people themselves. That is why we invite our Chadian brothers to work together in harmony and not to undertake anything that might disturb the effectiveness of the activities undertaken within the organization. We assure them that they can continue to count on the active collaboration of Africa.

True to its engagements and to the sacred principles of the OAU Charter, Zaire will always be prepared to do everything in its power to offer its political, diplomatic and material assistance for the maintenance of peace wherever it is threatened in Africa, especially in Chad.

Finally, we are hopeful that the deliberations of this Kinshasa meeting will become an important milestone in the search for peace in Chad -- peace without which our continent will not be able to guarantee the security of its peoples.

Long live the OAU, long live peace in Africa! Thank you.

Moi Comments

EA220034 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi has reiterated that the Chadian problem needs a political and not a military solution. President Moi, who is the current chairman of the OAU, was speaking in Kinshasa, Zaire, today at the official opening of a 1-day meeting of countries contributing troops to the OAU peacekeeping force in Chad.

Briefing the meeting on the activities of the OAU Standing Committee on Chad, President Moi said that for Chad to return to stable conditions, both socially and politically, maximum cooperation of Chadian leaders at all stages is needed. He stressed it is important for the Chadian people to help the OAU in charting a new course for their country.

On international aid, President Moi reported that the UN Security Council has agreed to give the OAU force in Chad some financial aid. He said that a UN-sponsored meeting on Chad will be held in Nairobi next month to draw up a reconstruction program for Chad.

Calling for extra international aid, President Moi said that the main problem facing the countries contributing forces in Chad is finance. He said that the cost of maintaining the forces in Chad has proved beyond the capacity of those countries.

Outlining the timetable agreed upon by the OAU committee to facilitate Chad's early return to peace, President Moi however lamented that up to now no provisions of the timetable have been adhered to due to lack of cooperation from all parties involved in the fighting in Chad.

President Moi was later expected to give the meeting a detailed brief on the progress and complications of the OAU Standing Committee on Chad.

Communique Issued

AB230612 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1551 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Kinshasa, 22 May (AZAP) -- Nigeria, Senegal and Zaire are willing in principle to maintain their troops in Chad after 30 June, provided the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] takes a clear stand at the latest by 10 June on the timetable proposed in the resolution adopted at the Nairobi summit on 11 February 1982.

This emerges from the final communique issued at the end of the OAU minisummit on Chad in Kinshasa on 21 and 22 May. Attending the meeting were the three countries participating in the peacekeeping force in Chad. Zaire and Kenya were represented by their presidents while Nigerian President Shehu Shagari and Senegalese President Abdou Diouf were represented by their respective ministers of foreign affairs. The GUNT has sent its minister of agriculture and rural development. OAU Secretary General Edem Kokjo also attended.

The communique calls on the GUNT to display good will and to implement the five-point resolution mentioned above, that is, the cease-fire, negotiations on national reconciliation, the drawing up of a draft constitution, the holding of legislative and presidential elections and the installation of the national institutions emerging from those elections.

If GUNT does not take these OAU proposals into consideration within the time given, Nigeria, Senegal and Zaire will proceed with the withdrawal of their respective contingents from Chad.

In another development, the Kinshasa minisummit has made an urgent appeal to all member countries of the OAU not to intervene in Chad outside the framework of the pan-African organization.

The final communique:

At the request of the OAU current chairman and under his chairmanship, the three countries participating in the inter-African force [FIA] in Chad held a meeting in Kinshasa on 21 and 22 May 82 in the presence of the Chadian delegate and the OAU secretary general.

1. The minisummit notes that the three countries contributing troops for the FIA in Chad are willing in principle to maintain their troops after the deadline set by the resolution adopted at the Nairobi summit on 11 February 1982, that is, past 30 June 1982.

To this effect, the participants in the Kinshasa minisummit ask GUNT to display good will by taking a clear stand at the latest by 10 June 1982 on the timetable proposed in the above mentioned resolution, that is:

-- A cease-fire;

-- Negotiations on national reconciliation;

-- The drawing up of a draft constitution;

-- The holding of legislative and presidential elections;

-- The installation of national institutions.

After that deadline, the three countries participating in the peacekeeping force will feel compelled to put an end to the mission of their respective contingents in Chad.

If the force is maintained in Chad, the OAU will have to take every measure to effectively cover the expenses incurred by the upkeep of the troops in Chad.

Also, the OAU will formally give guarantees that it will reimburse the expenses already incurred in Chad until 30 June 1982 by the three countries participating in the peacekeeping force.

2. The minisummit also asks the warring parties not to station themselves close to the peacekeeping force, considering the neutrality of the force.

3. Meanwhile, the Kinshasa minisummit urgently appeals to all OAU member states not to intervene in Chad outside the framework of our organization.

ECOWAS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETS IN COTONOU 21 MAY

AB211529 Paris AFP in English 1451 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Cotonou, 21 May (AFP) -- The 11th meeting of the Council of Ministers of the West African Economic Community (ECOWAS) opened here today, chaired by Sierra Leone Planning Minister Sheka Kanu.

In an address of welcome, Beninese Finance Minister Isidore Amoussou noted that the international economic situation was showing multiple tensions which affected Africa in particular.

Despite the efforts of governments, African countries had difficulty in satisfying the basic needs of their own people, Mr Amoussou said. But Africa had shown success in taking up ways and means of growth at a time when international solidarity was yielding to selfishness, he added, stressing the need to match the continent's extreme poverty with its enormous potential.

Mr KANU, the retiring chairman of ECOWAS, said that despite some difficulties the 16-member group had succeeded in consolidating itself during the seven years of its existence in a number of fields.

These included free movement of citizens, customs tariffs, the outline of a realistic programme for easing monetary exchange, and improvements in telecommunications, transport and cultural exchanges.

Mr Amoussou was elected the new chairman of the Council of Ministers, whose meeting behind closed doors is expected to go on until Sunday or Monday.

ALGERIA

OFFICIALS ARRIVE FOR CONFRONTATION FRONT MEETING

LD232118 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, arrived at Algiers' Houari Boumediene International Airport at noon today. He was welcomed by Dr Ahmed Talib Ibrahimi [words indistinct], the PLO representative in Algiers. The visit is in connection with the meeting of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front foreign ministers to be held in Algiers from tomorrow.

In the VIP lounge, Faruq Qaddumi said: [Begin recording] This conference is being held in crucial circumstances characterized by the Zionist-imperialist attack on all parts of the Arab homeland and by the attempts imperialism to impose its presence and hegemony on the Arab area.

Thus, the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front conference assumes great importance as a result of the subjects it is to discuss and also as to confronting the new challenges facing our Arab nation. There is no doubt that the Israeli-American strategic alliance represents one part of these challenges, apart from the continuous threats made by the ruling fascist clique in Israel to occupy south Lebanon. Imperialist attempts to pressure progressive Arab countries to march in their bandwagon must also be taken into account. However, the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, relying on the awakening of the Arab masses and their support for this front, will study all these subjects and make appropriate decisions to confront these challenges. [end recording]

Syrian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam also arrived in Algiers this afternoon. He was welcomed by Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Talib Ibrahimi. He made a short statement to the press, in which he talked about the circumstances in which the conference is being held and he affirmed the need to strengthen the front's struggle to confront the expanding circles of Camp David. The Syrian foreign minister explained in this connection that the Arab masses are the only ones capable of standing up to the imperialist-Zionist conspiracy.

'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, Libyan secretary of the people's committee for foreign liaison, also arrived in Algiers this evening to take part in the meeting of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front foreign ministers. He was welcomed by Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Talib Ibrahimi, and members of the Libyan fraternity bureau in Algiers.

MESSAADIA DISCUSSES USSR VISIT WITH SOVIET ENVOY

LD231730 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Algiers, 23 May (APS) -- Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Political Bureau and head of the FLN Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, received the Soviet ambassador to Algeria this morning.

Discussions during the meeting covered relations between the two parties and countries and current international topics. The meeting was a prelude to the visit that a delegation from the FLN will be making to the USSR at the invitation of the CPSU.

APS COMMENTS ON U.S.-MOROCCO COOPERATION

LD231244 Algiers APS in English 1154 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Algiers, 23 May (APS) -- As it was expected by the work visit paid in the United States by King Hassan II, the military and strategic cooperation between Washington and Rabat proves to be wider from north-west Africa to the Gulf.

In fact, within the frame of this strategic-military collaboration, the Moroccan expansionist thesis in Western Sahara on the one hand, and "the Egyptian option" dear to the U.S. administration [to] carry out Camp David Process, on the other hand, appear as the two polars of a main axis. Thus, the American commitement to Rabat in its war against the Saharan people is going to be expressed by the supplying of Moroccan forces in sophisticated armaments. "We are waiting for a U.S. military assistance", the head of the Moroccan diplomacy, Mr Boucetta stated. So, like other bases of the imperialist strategy in Africa and on the Middle East the Moroccan territory is ready for the American military network of interference to reinforce the surveillance of these regions.

In this context, the announcement of Boucetta's visit to Cairo is throwing a real light on the part [words indistinct] strategy of imperialism.

Boucetta (?while) linking himself this visit to the recent SDAR admission within the OAU does not hide on another turn, Rabat's point of view according to which "with Israel's (?withdrawal) from the Sinai, Egypt achieved an important [word indistinct] while we perfectly know the political price that this withdrawal cost to the Egyptian people, the Palestinian one and the Arab nation in general." In reality, such [word indistinct] is not surprising, Rabat's implication in the implementation of Camp David's process being disclosed since a long time, one nevertheless notices that the American diplomacy is being conferred a selected place in the (?fertile) attempts led by the United States to make the Cairo regime go out of its isolation from the rest of the Arab world and to impose the American solution of Camp David. [sentence as received]

LIBYA

CONFRONTATION FRONT STATEMENT ON ZAIRE, ISRAEL

LD220928 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 0115 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] The Steadfastness and Confrontation Front issued a statement yesterday evening on Zaire's decision to resume political relations with the racist Zionist regime. The statement reads:

The Steadfastness and Confrontation Front strongly denounces the decision by the ruling regime in Zaire to restore its political relations with the racist Zionist enemy -- an act hostile to the Arab nation, a retrogradation and an obstacle to the joint Arab-African struggle against imperialism, racism and Zionism. This decision is also a violation of the African summit conferences' resolutions on boycotting racist and Zionist regimes as the common enemy of the African people and the Arab nation.

Zaire's departure from the African unanimity through its alliance with racist Zionism, the statement adds, is, in fact, an alliance with the sinister racist regimes in South Africa and occupied Palestine and a racist act committed against the Arabs who boycott and resist the racist regimes in southern Africa and fight side by side with Africans in their struggle against racism.

The statement affirms that the racist regimes whether in South Africa or in occupied Palestine organically are bound together and strategically, militarily and materially are allied in their efforts to destroy the Arab and African peoples.

The statement calls on the African peoples and countries to take a firm stand against the Zaire regime in alliance with racism and Zionism.

The statement cautions that racist Zionism, allied with the white racist regime in South Africa, has been trying by all means to reinfiltrate Africa after this cancerous tumor was removed.

The statement also calls on the Zairian people to reject the decision by the Zaire regime to strike an alliance with the Zionist entity, warning that the next step will be a Zaire alliance with the racist regime in Pretoria. The statement calls on the Zairian people to topple the regime in their country, which is hostile to their Arab brothers. It affirms that the Zaire Government's decision to restore political relations with the Zionist enemy will have only one result: to hasten the fall of the ruling regime in Zaire, which has disregarded all human values and Africa's desperate fight against imperialism and Zionism.

The statement adds that the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front finds itself forced to disregard the facist Zaire regime and to seek direct alliance with the people of Zaire inside and outside the country in order to abort the policy of agency and subservience to imperialism and its tools pursued by the ruling regime.

In conclusion, the statement warns against using the attitude of an agent, weak and defeated Arab regime, which has been boycotted by the Arabs and politically isolated from the African peoples and the Nonaligned Movement member countries, as a pretext for the resumption of political relations with the Zionist regime and for according it recognition. The statement points out that Zaire's action will not cause Africa and the Arab nation to retreat or withdraw from their noble principle and common historical struggle against racism, that will continue until the liberation of South Africa, Namibia and occupied Palestine.

DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL IN ZAIRE TO BE RECALLED

LD212346 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] The JANA reporter has learned that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has decided to close its People's Bureau in Zaire and to recall bureau members as a result of the decision of the Zaire regime to reestablish its relations with the Zionist and racist entity.

AL-QADHDHAFI SAYS 'LIBERATE' HOLY PLACES

LD212352 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2200 GMT 21 May 82

[Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi statement -- no date given -- read by announcer]

[Text] On the occasion of the anniversary of the prophet's midnight journey to the seven heavens, I call on Muslims everywhere to liberate the holy mosque and the Al-Aqsa Mosque -- the mosque from which the prophet, may peace be upon him, started on his midnight flight and the mosque to which he returned from his journey to heaven.

I also call for placing holy Mecca and Al-Madinah al-Munawwarah under the Islamic administration of all Islamic nations. It is not permissible for the house of God to remain under the political control of any one state. The house of God is for all believers. Therefore, we must earnestly start action right now to remove the Saudis' political domination from the sacred house of God, even if this is to be accomplished by way of jihad.

As God willed, the pilgrims must come to the ancient house from all directions and without the need for permission or license from anyone, whoever he may be. The places which lead to the holy house of God should be accessible and unrestricted to all Muslims. Also, they should not be under the control of any state or regime. The pilgrims from all corners of the Islamic world must come to the house of God without the restrictions of passports or entry visas. Anyone who stops them or prevents them from entering should be looked upon as one would look upon a highwayman. As for those who have rejected God and would keep men from the way of God and from the sacred mosque which we have made open to all men: equal is the dweller and the visitor country and we shall cause any whose purpose therein is profanity or wrong doing to taste of most grievous penalty. [Koranic verse]

And as the prophet, may peace be upon him, traveled to Al-Madinah al-Munawwarah to Mecca and the ancient house to enter it as a triumphant conquerer and to cleanse it of idolators and the idols, we must set out from every direction and from every Muslim country to conquer Mecca and liberate the ancient house from the desecration of the Saudis and then we must set out to liberate Jerusalem and the Al-Aqsa Mosque, whose precincts we did bless.

CHADIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR CONSULTATIONS

LD212114 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1850 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Tripoli, 21 May (JANA) -- A delegation of senior Chad officials arrived in the Socialist People's Libyan Jamahiriyah, carrying a message to the leader of the revolution, to hold consultations with the historic leadership of the Great 1 September Revolution on new developments in Chad.

The delegation includes the minister of state for interior and security, El Hadj Mahamat Abba Said; the national education minister, Acheikh ibn Oumar; and the first deputy commander of the general command of the Chad Army (Rakhis Manani).

CHADIAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN TRIPOLI 23 MAY

LD231304 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Chad President Goukouni Oueddei, head of the Transitional National Union Government in Chad, arrived in Tripoli at noon today. He was welcomed at Tripoli International Airport by Brig 'Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, general commander of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, members of the general people's committee and a number of military officers. The president is accompanied by a delegation which includes Adoum Togoi, minister of defense; Youssef Saleh, director of the Political Bureau at the presidency; and a number of government officials.

President Goukouni made a statement to JANA, in which he expressed appreciation for the fraternal welcome accorded him and the accompanying delegation. He also confirmed the seriousness of the political and military situation in Chad and that the Government of Chad is watching this situation. He said Chad witnessed fierce wars over several years, causing many economic problems. Regarding the political situation in Chad, he said internal differences among various tendencies prevent the National Union Government from controlling its programs and confronting the bad situation. In addition, the military situation is cause for concern.

Jabir-Goukouni Meeting

LD232018 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Tripoli, 23 May (JANA) -- Brig 'Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, this evening met with President Goukouni Oueddei, head of the Transitional National Union Government of Chad.

Present at the meeting were: Chadian Defense Minister Adoum Togoi; Minister of State for the Interior and Security Mahamat Abba Said; and Minister of National Education, Youth and Sports Acheikh ibn Oumar.

During the meeting, President Goukouni Oueddei explained to Brig 'Abdu Bakr Yunis Jabir the deteriorating situation in Chad and the languid stand by the African forces, stressing that the nonseriousness of these forces is being established every day. He added that the African forces remain indifferent and do nothing at all in the face of the escalation of civil war and the collapse of security and stability of many Chadian villages and towns.

JALLUD TALKS WITH ITALIAN OFFICIALS IN ROME

For coverage of 'Abd as-Salam Jallud's talks with Italian officials in Rome, see the 20 May Italy & the Vatican section of the Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA COMMENTS ON EGYPTIAN TRIP, U.S. TALKS

LD221334 Rabat MAP in English 1211 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Washington, 22 May (MAP) -- Moroccan state minister in charge of foreign affairs, Mr M'hamed Boucetta, announced here Thursday that he will head for Cairo in "the few coming days." This visit, he added, falls more within an African than an Arab framework, since it is related to Organization of African Unity secretary general's decision to admit the so-called Arab Saharan Republic into the O.A.U. but, he added, he would respond if inter-Arab or inter-Islamic problems were evoked. Mr Boucetta was speaking in press conference he held before national and international press in Washington, more especially destined to FOREIGN POLICY magazine.

Speaking of Morocco's position towards Egypt and more particularly after the Isareli withdrawal from Sinai, Mr Boucetta said "Morocco's position towards this country has always been clear. We do not agree with the Camp Daivd accords. However, we believe that with the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, Eygypt has accomplished an important step."

Concerning the royal visit to the United States, Mr Boucetta underlined that it sought to reinforce relations between the two countries. "We expect military aid from the United States", he said. "We need arms. We hope to but part of it and we also hope to have the other part in the framework of American aid."

Concerning granting by Morocoo of transit rights for American planes, the foreign state minister said "it is out of the question to have American bases in Morocco," precising that it was question only of landing rights of U.S. Air Force on Moroccan land.

In this regard, Mr Boucetta pointed out the accord of principle concerning this question was reached and that discussions are continuing in a permanent manner in the framework of the joint Moroccan-American commission. This commission, he added, is charged with discussing technical modalities related to manipulating arms and exchange of contacts between both countries, military technicians.

As to tension presently prevailing in northwest Africa and expenses engaged by Morocco in its efforts to defend its territorial integrity, Mr Boucetta said Morocco is facing expansionism of Algeria and Libya which both want to extend across to the Atlantic. They dispose, he precised, of a sophisticated armament that one cannot find even in the Eastern countries.

Morocco, he underlined, which is being attacked with the help of East-made arms is obliged to seek help from the West to preserve its territorial integrity and defend its sovereignty. As to expenses engaged in this war, Mr Boucetta said no exact estimate could be made.

To a question of reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Zaire and the Zionist entity, Mr Boucetta answered that when African countries broke off with Israel, "certain among them justified their decision by the fact that Israel occupied part of an African country's territory, Egypt. "It was therefore out of solidarity among African countries that these decided to break off with Israel. Now that Egypt has recovered the Sinai, certain African countries felt there was no need to maintain this rupture. We believe that this justification is not enough, because Israel still occupies by force other territories and continues to consider the Palestinian problem as one that does not exist although Israel occupies the territory."

"The problem," he added, "becomes much more serious when it (Zaire) wants to have its embassy in Jerusalem, especially after the Knesset decision to consider Jerusalem as Israel's eternal capital." Mr Boucetta added that Morocco will do all it can "so that this position be reconsidered."

Finally, concerning a question on the report by Amnesty International speaking of "political prisoners" in Morocco, Mr Boucetta said he did not want to make much criticisms against Amensty International, but asserted that "in Morocco, there are no political prisoners... there are people to whom the law was applied for certain activities, either attempt against public order or the beginning of execution of trouble to public order." Referring to those captured after the attempted "coups" of 1971 and 1972, Mr Boucetta said that "when there is a rebellion or attempt on the person of the king, or to seek to overthrow the regime, and that the regime itself captures the authors of the attempts, it is its right to punish them. I think that this does not only enter within the system of legitimate defense, but in the framework of the duty to make respect the country's institutions."

INDEPENDENCE PARTY MEMBERS MEET CPSU DELEGATION

LD221652 Rabat MAP in French 1000 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Rabat, 22 May (MAP) — A CPSU delegation led by Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, recently visited the general headquarters of the Moroccan Independence Party and held talks with party officials, according to the newspaper L'OPINION. The CPSU delegation also included Yuriy Gryadunov, chief of the International Department's Middle East sector, and Yevgeniy Nersesov, Soviet ambassador to Rabat.

The Independence Party delegation comprising Abdelhaz Tazi, (Larbi Messari), (Mohamed Idrissi Kaitouni), (Dr Abdeslam Ouazzani), members of the Party Executive and members of the Party National Council "briefed the Soviet delegation on the Moroccan Sahara question and the aggressive Algerian actions aimed against our country. The CPSU delegation also was briefed on the schemes of the Algerian-Libyan coalition aimed at undermining all efforts toward achieving a political solution for the prevailing tension in northwest Africa."

The Soviet delegation emphasized the leading role of the Independence Party in Moroccan life and particularly during the struggle for independence and for the defense of the Moroccan people's vital interests.

"The Soviet delegation reiterated the desire of the USSR to have and develop normal relations with Morocco," the newspaper added.

The talks also dealt with means of safeguarding world peace. In this respect, the Independence Party delegation indicated that as a developing country, Morocco attaches particular importance to coexistence between the superpowers and hopes for a return to peace, especially in the Middle East, added L'OPINION.

"The Independence Party side also stated that Morocco is convinced that its interests lie in genuine nonalignment, safeguarding of its independence and guaranteeing its self-defense through all means."

"On this occasion, the Independence Party side called on the USSR to intervene with Algeria to put an end to the repeated aggressive actions against Morocco," L'OPINION concluded.

WESTERN SAHARA

MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE DENOUNCES U.S. ATTITUDE

LD231442 Algiers APS in English 1338 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Haouze [as received], SDAR, 23 May (APS) -- A communique issued yesterday by the Saharan Ministry of (?Information) denounced the U.S. attitude which "will hide their warlike intentions by stating that they support a peaceful solution in Western Sahara".

The communique condemned "cynicism" of the U.S. which evokes "a peace in the framework of the OAU" and concludes an agreement on strategic military cooperation with Morocco.

Evoking Senegal President Abdou Diouf's [word indistinct] before SDAR admission with OAU, the communique stressed the president's despise for OAU Charter and its principles and recalled the "direct negotiations between Morocco and SDAR is the only way to put an end to this war."

RWANDA

MRND, CHINESE OFFICIALS HOLD TALKS 19 MAY

AB201444 Paris AFP in French 0924 GMT 20 May 82

[Text] Kigali, 20 May (AFP) — A PRC delegation headed by Zhang Zhixiang, deputy director of the CCP, currently visiting Rwanda, held a working session yesterday in Kigali with Bonaventure Habimana, secretary general of the National Revolutionary Development Movement [MRND]. [Words indistinct] the structures and objectives of the two parties -- the CCP and the MRND.

Upon arrival in Kigali on Tuesday, the leader of the Chinese delegation explained this 1-week visit falls within the framework of the excellent relations between the PRC and the Republic of Rwanda. It also will enable them to exchange views and experiences between the CCP and the MRND, he added.

ZAIRE

ISRAELI EMBASSY OPENS IN KINSHASA 21 MAY

AB211620 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1552 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Kinshasa, 21 May (AZAP) — On Friday, David Kimche, director general of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs, presided over the official opening of the Israeli Embassy in Kinshasa.

Speaking on this occasion, Kimche stressed the friendly ties that always thave existed between the Israeli and Zairian peoples. He explained these ties originated from the history of the two peoples, one persecuted by colonialism and the other by anti-Semitism that led to the mass killing of Jews during World War II. Kimche praised President Mobutu for his courage and described him as a "great African leader", the first to understand there is no longer any justification for breaking ties with the Israeli State.

He added that the Israeli people welcome Zaire's decision to reestablish diplomatic relations with Israeli with great emotion. David Kimche raised the Israeli flag bearing the Star of David as the Israeli national anthem was being played.

Members of the Jewish community, led by the Israeli rabbi in Kinshasa, attended the ceremony at the end of which Kimche introduced the Israeli charge d'affaires, Moshe Iten.

DIPLOMATS DIRECTED TO LEAVE SAUDI ARABIA

AB201215 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 20 May 82

[Text] We have just recorded some consequences of the restoration of diplomatic relations between Kinshasa and Tel Aviv. In fact, Tunisia has just recalled its ambassador in Kinshasa for consultation. This is probably due to the restoration of diplomatic relations between Kinshasa and Tel Aviv. We have also called our ambassador in Tunis home for consultations.

That is not all: Saudi Arabia has given Zairian diplomatic personnel 2 weeks to leave that country. This was learned through diplomatic channels. Gen Mobutu Sese Seko therefore has directed that our diplomats in Jidda return to Kinshasa within 48 hours, on any available flight.

BENIN

RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL WILL NOT BE RESUMED

AB210941 Paris AFP in French 0829 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Cotonou, 21 May (AFP) -- Benin will not renew relations with the Jewish state as long as it refuses to comply with "the legitimate demands of Palestinian people" and as long as the occupied Arab territories remain under Israeli occupation, a Beninese official asserted.

In an interview with the Benin press agency on Benin's reaction following the restoration of diplomatic relations between Zaire and Israel, this top-ranking official, whose name was not mentioned by the press, said: "True to its international policies, the Government of the People's Republic of Benin does not interfere in the internal affairs and acts of sovereignty of other countries." He stressed that the People's Republic of Benin supports all national liberation movements and, in this case, the PLO.

IVORY COAST

FRENCH PRESIDENT ADDRESSES NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

AB221335 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1132 GMT 22 May 82

[French President Francois Mitterrand's address before National Assembly in Abidjan during his 3-day official visit -- live]

[Excerpts] Mr Speaker, ladies and gentlemen of the National Assembly: Believe me, I greatly appreciate the honor you do me by receiving me today at the Ivorian National Assembly. Added to this, permit me to stress, is the special pleasure that I feel, as a former parliamentarian myself, to be with you.

Everybody, in Africa and the world over, knows the Ivory Coast. The men and women of this country have the virtues of foresight and moderation that favors stability and the constant demand of your society for change has now evolved into independence, progress and peace. The Ivory Coast is also a state which adapts itself to the evolution of society as the reforms you have undertaken, especially after the last congress of your party, will prove. Among the institutions of the Ivory Coast, the role of your assembly is, and always will be, essential: It is here that the dialogue to which you are rightly attached begins; it is here that the great ideas that lead to decisions that prepare those changes are conceived; and it is here that the unity of the nation is strengthened, despite the fact that you belong to different societies, regions and customs which you represent. But I know by experience that your responsibility is great. Chosen by the people you represent and guided by political ideals of the organizations that have expressed their confidence in you by choosing you, you express opinions and wishes but also apprehensions: This cannot be done without difficulties and constraints, especially in a country which, despite the great strides it has made, still has a lot to accomplish and has to depend on a difficult environment. I know you perform your duties seriously and enthusiastically. I know your assembly has the enthusiasm and the will to perform its duties and that many of the men and women within it are in their first term of office while others add their wealth of experience.

I am, therefore, happy to congratulate you and to pay tribute to you, through you to your country which, spurred on by President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, has evolved toward a democracy adapted to your societies and toward the solutions to the problems of your continent.

We cannot stop mentioning such a special atmosphere that has made it possible for this country to open itself to foreign ideals, beliefs and cultures without in any way abandoning the best of a tradition, an African tradition, of dialogue which finds its best expression here by welcoming contradictions which enrich your debates. A tradition of hospitality also makes it possible for your brother Africans to find in the Ivory Coast the means for an existence which their countries could not always offer them. How many foreign communities have established themselves freely among you, free of the difficulties that drove them away from their countries.

Since its independence, the Ivory Coast has been able to conduct its economic development in a remarkable way: Within a few years, an enviable prosperity was given to the men and women of this country. The territory was transformed by infrastructures and equipment. But this progress, which comes from the work of Ivorians, and as far as national affairs are concerned, from wise leadership, is whether we like it or not, linked to the international economic environment. We recently have seen the truth in this because, despite its wise policies and all its good opportunities, the Ivory Coast is hit by financial repercussions in the deterioration of terms of exchange. Under the circumstances, we assured you of our support and that was quite normal; I was satisfied by the good results obtained by the concerted efforts of our leaders and experts. But all the same -- and the problems we have enumerated go to confirm it -- the establishment of a new world economic order remains the indispensable condition for the harmonious development of all continents, particularly of African countries.

The economies of industrial countries were strongly hit by the effects of the rise in oil prices, but do we know that the Third World's oil bill went up 20 times between 1970 and 1980? This is because they failed to negotiate a fair increase of oil prices. The world economy nearly was ruined by predictable attacks for which it had made no provision. In such conditions of absolute uncertainty, when we cannot know either our revenues or our expenditures and when climatic hazards are added to irresponsible speculation which I have already denounced, how can we manage a budget? How can one plan one's investments? How can one plan one's future? In short, how can one achieve development? Of course, it is not a matter of claiming or begging from others the right to live. Everything begins with the will one has to ensure what I would describe as conditions for economic independence.

A number of measures should be taken, especially we should all come together to think about the desirable reforms to be made. The important thing is, first of all, to coordinate our actions. Any realistic reforms of the stabilization of export earnings [stabex] depends on the progress or failure of agreements on products. The stabex alone can never support the weight of the instability in the world. In the same way, any expansion of financing facilities should fall within a larger perspective of adjustment in the balance of payments -- the management of the indebtedness of the Third World.

We all know, ladies and gentlemen, that the redress fervently demanded by all our countries, and as your president has always demanded, and as I myself demand, will not be obtained easily and quickly.

You were able to notice, over the past few months, the pacts we made within the framework of aid to development. I recalled last night the American decision to considerably reduce U.S. support. Several other countries expressed the desire to act in the way of reduction and in the same proportion. Only a few countries -- the Scandinavian countries, to a certain extent Great Britain and France -- have decided to integrally maintain their contribution and to establish a special plan to enable us as a group to define the use of the contribution.

During the Ottawa summit in 1981, I defined the principal axes of a development policy based on guaranteeing a minimum price for raw materials, developing other energy resources besides oil in a number of countries that do not have this mineral, granting agricultural assistance, especially through research and high technology to arrive at self-sufficiency in food production and launching a new international monetary system which is indespenable considering the effects of the unilateral decision in 1971, which has broken the equilibrum of the [name indistinct] accords. In Cancun, I repeated this appeal and I easily found myself sharing the same views with the Ivory Coast representative. We were among those who ardently wanted to speak our minds within the framework of what is called -- and this term has now become common -- "global negotiations" within the United Nations.

Finally, ladies and gentlemen, permit me to say that by taking part in Africa's efforts, France's main objectives are peace and liberty -- I do not take delight in the use of big words -- I only want to define as precisely as possible the ways and means to enable us to live better, or simply to live.

I will do all in my power -- each time that my country is called upon and within the limit of its capabilities -- to express myself in favor of conditions for a peaceful dialogue on all burning issues of the planet -- and because I am saying this from Abidjan -- especially on the African Continent. I have already held discussions with your president and I will resume the conversations with him on the solutions to be found to the burning conflicts in the Western Sahara, in Namibia, in Chad, on what is going on in the Horn of Africa and on all that appears beyond the African Continent -- beginning with the Middle East and going father, the war between Iraq and Iran and the contagion raging all over the world -- and very often conflicts are almost everywhere. These conflicts have been worsening up to the most recent, demanding our attention, and on which I recalled that the Golden Rule is to look for the restoration of peace in accordance with law. You see that we have much to discuss together during my stay in the Ivory Coast, as I will do in Senegal, on the conditions that will enable us to contribute to the restoration of peace -- a condition necessary for liberty and progress.

From north to south, from east to west, the whole of Africa aspires for development and well-being which it needs very much. However, how can the African peoples devote all their energy to this gigantic task if they do not possess the conditions that I have just mentioned -- the first of which is security?

Briefly, France will respond to all moves meant to contribute to the maintenance of equilibrum and peace in Africa. As far as we are covered by mature agreements, we will find ways to contain the fears spread here and there by military operations. To us, today, these operations here and there continue to hinder important projects, for example, the delay of the Namibian independence process. These operations are also responsible for passions and fanaticism, for example, the conflicts first of all considered local and subregional that evole into true exchanges of force as well as the conflicts between East and West, which every day are substituted for the problems between North and South.

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, we have your same fears. We will act to aid peace in this region. That is why we are actively participating in the deliberations of the contact group with the purpose of achieving the recommendations of UN Resolution 435. Our two countries pursue the same ideals of peace and solidarity and I personally express the wish that your deliberations in this assembly be crowned with success.

The Ivory Coast is France's first partner in Africa, south of the Sahara, and this is the mutual interest we have. But to me it is above all due to the exceptional bonds of friendship we have with the people of Ivory Coast, with its representatives, with its president -- a fact I need not stress again. This, in our minds as in our hearts, is a role of great dimensions in history. [applause] Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

Voices Support for UK

NC231503 Paris AFP in English 1443 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast, 23 May (AFP) -- French President Francois Mitterrand said today that France would continue to support Britain in its present conflict with Argentina over the Falkland Islands.

"Our solidarity with Britain must not be doubted," Mr Mitterrand said at a news conference here, some 220 kms (136 miles) north of Abidjan.

Saying that there was an "internal logic" to the escalation of the conflict, Mr Mitterrand said: "From the moment that Britain thought it could not accept a fait accompli its fleet could not go home without fulfilling its mission... it was then that we entered this terrible logic of the war."

He indicated that he would evoke the Falklands crisis with his industrialized partners at the seven-nation economic summit in Versailles in early June. But he said that "France must seek to preserve its friendships, interests and historic community that link it with the people of Latin America."

NIGER

MITTERRAND DENIES ROLE IN ZAIRE-ISRAEL TIES

AB211325 Paris AFP in English 1318 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Niamey, 21 May (AFP) -- Visiting French President Francois Mitterrand today denied reports that France had any connection with the resumption of diplomatic relations between Zaire and Israel.

"We have enough problems without getting mixed up in others," Mr Mitterrand told a news conference here at the end of his official visit to Niger. He said Zaire was responsible for its own affairs and that France did not involve itself in the affairs of African countries.

According to certain reports from Arab countries, France was said to have had a role in Zaire's decision last week to resume relations with Israel nine years after having broken them off.

Leaves Niamey 21 May

AB211546 Paris AFP in English 1512 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Niamey, 21 May (AFP) -- French President Francois Mitterrand left here today for Abidjan following a two-day official visit, the first leg of his first trip as president to Black Africa.

He and his wife, Danielle, were seen off at the airport by Niger's head of state, Colonel Seyni Kountche, and his wife. Mr Mitterrand was to arrive in the Ivory Coast this afternoon where he would be welcomed by President Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

Before leaving here the French president told a news conference that "France is not the policeman of Africa and has no intention of becoming that." He reiterated that France would remain present in Africa for security reasons but would not interfere in the internal matters of African states.

Military co-operation does not mean that France is going to take over Africa's political responsibility, he said at the joint news conference with Colonel Kountche. Mr Mitterrand also reiterated that France "will respect its undertakings" in Africa.

Colonel Kountche said that he had not asked France for munitions, arms or men. But, "I have asked France in so far as it is able to give us the means to assure our security -- in other words our development," he said.

The two presidents said Mr. Mitterrands's visit to Niger was "serious" in terms of work, and characterized by mutual trust.

According to Mr Mitterrand, top subjects discussed included: uranium, Niger's main source of foreign revenue (France said it would work to prevent the fall in the price of uranium and would honour its commitments to pay more than the market rate), telecommunications, renewable energy, education, and the dam project at Kandadji for which France is a main lender of funds.

On Namibia, Mr Mitterrand said that "interesting results" could shortly be unveiled concerning the work of the five-nation contact group. The group, which includes France, has been confronted with a four-month-long deadlock in attempts to further a negotiated settlement over Namibian independence.

Mr Mitterrand also gave assurances of France's solidarity with the countries of the Sahel region bordering on the southern Sahara, which includes Niger.

Col. Kountche said that the Mitterrand visit "honoured all countries in the region, particularly Chad," Niger's faction-ridden neighbor.

Joint Declaration on Visit

AB211842 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 21 May 22

["Text" of declaration issued in Niamey on 21 May at the conclusion of French President Francois Mitterrand's visit to Niger 19-21 May 1982]

[Text] French-Niger declaration of Niamey:

The president of the French Republic, Francois Mitterrand, and Col Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state of Niger, wish to solemnly recall the principles of implementation and the projects on which their desire to strengthen their ties of friendship and cooperation are based. They declare that in the bilateral sphere French-Niger cooperation, which respects each country's independence, sovereignty and own values, expresses the fundamental aspirations of the French and Niger peoples. This positive cooperation has enabled the recording of beneficial results for the two partners. They expressed particular satisfaction over the results achieved in Niger, in the major fields of planning, development of mineral resources, rural development, equipment, health and telecommunications.

The new orientation given to French policy over the past year and the changes recorded in Niger with the setting up of the organization for development give promising prospects for the strengthening of a mutually beneficial cooperation in a spirit of solidarity, understanding and equality.

In international politics, France and Niger, both committed to peace and concerned over the increase or persistence of hotbeds in the world, particularly in Africa, affirm their determination to ensure their own security. They are opposed to the use or the threat of use of force, attempts of domination and general disregard for principles of the UN Charter. They believe such policies endanger international peace and security. They therefore condemn attempts at subversion and destabilization on sovereign and independent states and external interference in their domestic affairs. They reaffirmed their commitment to the peaceful settlement of interstate conflicts, to respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of each state, as well as the right to every people to self-determination and to freely choose his political, economic and social policies. They stressed again their desire to convince other countries of the world to adopt and to implement as soon as possible necessary measures to ensure a reduction in arms with the aim of restoring international confidence.

In the international economic field, France and Niger are aware of the inadequate demands of today's world and the present inappropriate international economic, financial and technical structures. They express their grave concern over the persistent world economic crisis and its disastrous effects, particularly on the fragile economies of developing countries, notably on those of the least advanced countries. They also are concerned about the reluctance to vote the necessary resources to finance developments. They express satisfaction with measures taken by some countries -- among which France is in the forefront -- to strengthen the reduced budget of the Agency of International Development. They are both committed to pursuing and intensifying their efforts at the international level for the revival of global negotiations within the framework of the United Nations and for the stabilization of raw material prices with the aim of promoting a new international economic order that will reduce the gap between the developed and the developing countries. France and Niger, more than ever before, are determined to work together in all fields to ensure -- immediately or in the near future -- peace in the world.

SENEGAMBIA

SENEGAL NOT TO RENEW RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

AB191535 Paris AFP in English 1426 GMT 19 May 82

[Text] Dakar, 19 May (AFP) -- Senegal does not envisage following Zaire's example and renewing diplomatic relations with Israel, Information Minister Kjibo Ka said here today.

This position will remain unchanged as long as Israel continues to occupy Arab territories and as long as the Palestinian problem, which is fundamental in the view of the Senegalese Government, is not resolved, he said.

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) has a mission in Dakar with embassy status, and Senagal considers the PLO as the sole and authentic representative of the Palestinian people.

MOZAMBIQUE

FRELIMO DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR USSR 22 MAY

EA231500 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] The Frelimo Central Committee secretary for economic policy, Marcelino dos Santos, left Maputo for Moscow last night as President Samora Machel's special envoy. The high-ranking party official is carrying a message from the president of Frelimo and of the People's Republic of Mozambique for Leonid Brezhnev, CPSU general secretary and president of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of the USSR. Marcelino dos Santos is accompanied by Sebastiao Mabote, chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Mozambique.

GDR DEPUTY MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS 22 MAY

EA222056 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] GDR Foreign Trade Deputy Minister Peter Schmidt arrived in Maputo today to take part in the sixth session of the Mozambique-GDR subcommission for foreign trade and finance sectors and technical and scientific cooperation. Peter Schmidt, who is accompanied by the GDR general director of foreign trade and the GDR director of the African division, will examine with Mozambique officials the implementation of cooperation agreements signed under the Mozambique-GDR joint subcommission. Speaking to Radio Mozambique, the GDR deputy minister said that during his discussions and exchanges of opinion with Mozambican officials, support for the holding of the Frelimo fourth congress will be examined.

NAMIBIA

SECURITY FORCES KILL EIGHT 'TERRORISTS' 20 MAY

LD211144 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] The security forces in South-West Africa/Namibia have killed eight terrorists in the north of the territory. Seven were shot dead in a skirmish south of the border in central Ovambo yesterday after the security forces followed their tracks for quite a while. The eighth terrorist was shot on the western border of the Etosha game reserve while fleeing northwards.

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA RETURNS FROM MIDDLE EAST TOUR 19 MAY

NC192110 Paris AFP in English 2039 GMT 19 May 82

[Text] Lusaka, 19 May (AFP) -- Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda arrived back home today after a five-day tour of Kuwait, Iraq and Bahrain, which included talks with their leaders on bilateral relations.

Mr Kaunda assured Arab leaders while in Bahrain that Zambia would not follow Zaire's example and restore ties with Israel. Talks in all three countries covered the Iran-Iraq war, for which Zambia is a member of the Non-Aligned Movement foreign ministers peace-seeking team, the Middle East situation and matters of common interest. The Zambian minister of finance and the minister in charge of national planning were in the president's entourage -- a strong indication that Mr Kaunda could also have been discussing economic aid for his country from this oil-rich region.